The Hongkong Telegraph.

MAIL SUPPLEMENT.

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BIRTHS.

At Chinkiang, on the 8th inst., the wife of Mr. N. ELLIS, I. M. Customs, of a daughter.

On January 14, 1908, at Shanghai, the wife of JOHN J. SYMINGTON, of a son.

MARRIAGE.

On November 22, 1907, D. PEGORINI, I.M.C., to MARGARET BUCKNELL, daughter of the late William Bucknell, of Philadelphia, U.S.A.

DEATHS.

Dec. 10th, at Littlehampton, EMILY JANE, daughter of late W. H. Adams, Chief Justice of Hongkong.

On January 5, 1908, at Suchiow, North Kiangsu, ENEN, infant son of the Rev. and Mrs. W. F. Junkin, of the Southern Presbyterian Mission.

On January 15, 1908, at Shanghai, ANNIE, the widow of the late I. P. Martin, formerly British Postmaster, Shanghai, aged 70 years.

On January 15, 1908, at Ningpo, Major J. C. WATSON.

On January 17, 1908, at Shanghai, Dr A. KATAYAMA.

On January 18, 1908, at Shanghai, J. C. CHAVES, aged 38 years.

On January 19, 1908, at Shanghai ELIZABETH DINAH, widow of the late E. S. Ottoway, of Chefoo, aged 60 years.

The Hongkong Telegraph

MAIL SUPPLEMENT.

ISSUED GRATIS TO SUBSCRIBERS.

HONGKONG, FRIDAY, JANUARY 24, 1908.

AN ABORTIVE BOYCOTT.

(18th January.)

In another column, we reproduce an account of the threatened boycott at Shanghai reported in our telegram columns the other day. Rumours have been current for some time that a boycott of British firms was in course of manipulation by certain native politicians, presumably with the means of forcing the British and Chinese Corporation to forego its rights under the Concession granted by the Peking Government to construct the Soochow Hangchow Ningpo Railway. That there was some foundation for these rumours was proved on Saturday when it was discovered that Chinese expresses were being distributed in the settlement asking the Chinese to refuse to accept the notes of the Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation. From what has transpired [illegible] any association or combination [illegible] which writing editorially, observes:—"Indeed, the issue of the expressage would seem to have been simply the idea of the manager of a native bank, who seemingly was native enough to image he could derive some possible profit to himself or his bank from a boycott of the leading Shanghai bank. It is satisfactory to know that the conduct of the native banker has been so promptly repudiated by the Provincial Judge, Jui Cheng, the late Shanghai Taotai, and by the native Chamber of Commerce, and that action has been taken by the present Shanghai Taotai which will probably have the effect of preventing in the future similar unadvised attempts to disturb the good relations at present existing between foreigners and Chinese in Shanghai. The police are deserving of every credit for the promptness with which they succeeded in tracing out the origin of the circulars and so so quickly bringing those responsible before the Mixed Court. With the proceedings at the Mixed Court to-day, however, we cannot express the same satisfaction, and we think Assistant Superintendent Springfield was justified in the protest he made at the unseemly haste with which the case was rushed through the Court. It would almost seem as if there was something in connection with the matter which it was desired to conceal from the public. As the affair might, had it had any encouragement given it, have had the most serious consequences—it cannot be forgotten that the 1905 riots were preceded by the issue of a similar express—it is in the interests of the safety of the settlement that the utmost publicity should be given to any proceedings in Court in such cases. We are not disposed, however, to give too much importance to the present affair, and we expect that the firms more immediately concerned look upon the incident with complete indifference, but nevertheless it is desirable in the interests of the foreigners that attempts of this kind should be seriously regarded. From the remarks of the accused's counsel and the manner in which the charge was disposed of by the Court, it is evident that it has been arranged that no actual punishment will be inflicted on the enterprising native banker for his peculiar ideas of competition. At the same time, it will not be according to Chinese methods of judicial proceedings if he is not made to pay sweetly, if indirectly, for his indiscretion, and we have no doubt before the banker hears the last of the affair he will be completely convinced that instigating a boycott is an extremely unprofitable way of promoting business. We sincerely hope no more of these unpleasant incidents will occur to mar the harmony of foreign and native relations."

CHOLERA IN MANILA.

(20th January.)

In our last issue we printed the announcement of the postponement of the Carnival at Manila, due, as stated in the Press, to an outbreak of cholera in the Philippine capital. A "Physician" writes to the *Manila Times* urging that there is something radically wrong in this cholera business. Being a lay-man in sanitation he could not state where it was. Cholera has been prevalent every day for the past few months. When a number of cases occur daily, especially where whites, people are involved, the board of health rushes in the printing press to get out circulars prohibiting the sale of vegetables and giving a host of precautions to be observed." When the first 24 hours pass during which a case has not been reported, it seems all these measures are slackened, with the result that cholera is really never stamped out. If the scourge can be arrested, it surely can be stopped. Manila has one of the most expensive as well as one of the best sanitary equipments in the world. There is, this being true, absolutely no excuse for the present condition of the city with regard to this six-year-old epidemic. The correspondent adds: "Had the Carnival not needed a suitable excuse for a necessary postponement it is doubted if the 'reappearance' of cholera would have ever been made known. As the Japs are giving us cause for alarm in other things, so they are in the matter of cholera. It was a Jap who revived the malady in 1905 and ever since that time one or more of them had headed the procession in these unexpected 're-appearances.' Combatting the correspondent's assertions, our contemporary remarks that "The explanation of the manner in which cholera disappears and reappears, as given by the director of health, is one which we feel sure will satisfy those who have some slight knowledge of epidemic disease and who are at the same time reasonable. He says that it is the nature of cholera to remain sporadic for a time, the germs having what may be called a low vitality, and then for them suddenly to become virulent. While the disease remains almost dormant, and the bacilli are weak, only those whose systems are in a very low condition from malnutrition or other causes, are susceptible. So we have the one or two cases appearing from time to time. When the germs are virulent, even those whose systems are in good condition may fall victims. Then, the director of health says, it is time to look out. Unfortunately, also, Mr. Cholera Germ is a tough little citizen, and to use pugilistic parlance, although somewhat disfigured, he can usually stay in the ring. You cannot give him a knock-out blow. Could the board of health round up all the bacilli in the islands and give them an injection of prussic acid or a teaspoonful of kerosene, or could the guardhouse men be put upon their trail and track them to their lair, all would be well and Mr. Bacillus would turn up his dear little toes and take the elevator for kingdom come; but he is not built that way. Like the poor, we have him always with us. As for the charge that immediately the cholera scare passes all the prohibitive measures are relaxed, we suggest Physician' consult our inter-island shipping firms and ask them what they have to say about the continuance of quarantine measures occasionally when they think all danger is past. Possibly 'Physician' would recommend prohibiting the sale of all vegetables and other foodstuffs mentioned in the cholera circular for, say, two or three years after the manifestation of the scourge disappears. What the poor people who subsist largely on such things would do to him meantime we dread even to conjecture. There would be no need of a funeral pyre. That the germ of cholera can remain dormant or inactive for a twelvemonth or more was abundantly shown in the scourge of two years or so ago. After a 'clean' period of two years it bobbed up again in some water in a disused well up Tanny way."

THE N. Y. K. AND THE BOMBAY SERVICE.

(21st January.)

In the course of the discussion which took place as the result of Sir Thomas Sutherland's assertion that the share of the P. & O. in the trade from Bombay to Japanese ports had been practically wiped out, it was asserted that for more than a year the Bombay service of the Nippon Yusen Kaisha had been worked without a subsidy, the inference naturally being that the P. & O. was being driven out of the trade by fair competition. This, apparently, was not the view of the Chairman of the Company, who in his speech had said he believed it was owing to the fact that "the Japanese Government had forced their shipowners to increase their departures from Bombay to such an extent, that, so far as freight to Japan was concerned, they had been completely left out in the cold." The view that there had been any direct intervention of the Japanese Government in the matter was scouted by some of the critics of Sir Thomas Sutherland, and certainly it appeared to many people to be improbable. It has been generally assumed, however, that the Chairman of the P. & O. not being given to reckless statements, had some information in his possession which he regarded as justifying his remarks. Writing editorially on this subject, on the 14th inst., the *Japan Chronicle*, with the foregoing preamble, says:—We get an insight into his meaning from a statement which is made in an Indian paper to following effect:—"The Japanese purchase annually five, six, or seven lakhs of bales of raw cotton every year for their mills in Japan, and during the Russo-Japanese war this trade was entirely carried on by steamers of the P. & O., Austrian Lloyd, and Florio Rubattino. Since the termination of the war the Japanese have been most anxious to carry the whole of this trade in their own vessels, and as they own many merchant steamers won as prizes during the war, they considered it would be a beneficial way of utilising this extra tonnage to place some of it on the Bombay-Japan line. The sailing of the Nippon Yusen Kaisha have accordingly been increased from two steamers *per mensem* to three sailings. They now therefore practically have the monopoly of the Bombay-Japan cotton trade." Continuing, the article our Kobe contemporary remarks: "From this paragraph it will be seen that Sir Thomas Sutherland was quite justified in saying that Japanese steamers had increased their sailings, though even this was called in question in Japan. We now find a further very interesting statement in the *Fiji Shimpo*, which makes a revelation of much importance in the discussion. After stating that the Nippon Yusen Kaisha is one of a steamship conference which includes the P. & O., Austrian Lloyd, and Florio Rubattino, the Tokyo journal says that the subsidy paid by the Japanese Government to the Nippon Yusen Kaisha for its Bombay service came to an end last April. Only two steamers on the line were then receiving the Steamship Navigation Encouragement bounty. Subsequently one of these was transferred to another line and the other lost its qualification, not conforming to the conditions. There are now nine steamers on the line, none of which receives any bounty or subsidy. It further appears from our contemporary's statement that all of these nine steamers are vessels captured during the war, and that they have been placed by the Government in charge of the N.Y.K. so that they can be utilised as transports should occasion arise. At the same time, in placing these steamers at the disposal of the company, the Government has made it a condition that a Tairen service should be maintained, and other burdens are mentioned as being imposed, though it is not stated what they are. The steamers thus lent to the company are too large for the coasting trade and too slow for passenger traffic. Therefore the company is compelled to place them on the Bombay run, that being the only service for which they are fitted. Now we gather from the statement in the *Fiji*, that the vessels have been placed at the service of the Nippon Yusen Kaisha without any charge save possibly that of maintenance. If that be the case, it is evident that the Nippon Yusen Kaisha is, as a matter of fact, receiving very substantial assistance from the Government in maintaining this line. By means of the additional steamers placed at its disposal a number of vessels are released for service elsewhere, possibly [illegible] and the saving effected by the company is increased by every steamer that is added to its fleet. Under such circumstances that this line is not in receipt of Government assistance? Of course the Japanese Government has a right to do as it pleases in this matter, but clearly this is not legitimate competition. If the P. & O. Company were relieved of the capital charge upon the steamers of the Bombay-Japan service, it would evidently be placed in a very different position in entering into the competition for trade. But this point is not at all realised by our Japanese contemporary, which actually makes the statement as to the Nippon Yusen Kaisha as if this proved that the line was being worked without a subsidy! The *Fiji* goes on to censure Sir Thomas Sutherland for making the statement to which such wide attention has been called, even hinting that he may have uttered these remarks with the object of obtaining a subsidy for his company from the British Government. Our contemporary's suspicions are quite unjustified. Sir Thomas Sutherland is a convinced free-trader, who believes that the British mercantile marine is the greatest in the world because it has been built up on sound commercial lines, not fostered into an unhealthy temporary activity by means of doles and bounties."

THE LEADING PACIFIC PORT.

(22nd January.)

Few who have not been watching the growth of Kobe as a shipping centre are likely to realise the progress that port has been making within the past few years. Mr. Consul Bonar's report on the trade of Kobe and district, which includes Osaka and seven other special open ports, in 1906 furnishes a very clear conception of what may be expected of Kobe in the future, provided she advances as a port at the same rate as that which has attended her trade during the present decade. In fact the Consul holds that "the Japanese Government and the Japanese commercial world have excellent grounds for believing that Kobe is destined to become the leading port of the Pacific." In support of this view the writer remarks that the foreign trade of the district amounted in 1905 to 48 per cent. of the total, or £40,636,863 out of £65,000,000 for the whole of Japan. But for purposes of comparison it may not be out of place to consider what its position is in relation to the foreign trade of other countries. Taking the year 1905 (the last available returns), when the trade in China had exceeded that of any previous year, being £103,500,000, the trade of the Kobe Consular district for the same period was over £40,000,000, being thus equal to two-fifths of that of the whole of China. The ports of Kobe and Osaka combined have in fact a [illegible] than all the treaty ports of China combined, Shanghai [illegible] Imports and exports from and to the United Kingdom alone, the trade of Kobe and Osaka combined was equivalent in 1905 to 27 per cent. of the United Kingdom's import and export trade with the Empire of China. But it is in the shipping returns that the report affords the most noteworthy indication of the development that is being made by the go-ahead port in the North. In the year under review 2,768 vessels entered, the tonnage being 5,528,135, and that did not include the coastwise trade. The most striking feature was the increase in Japanese vessels and tonnage, which totalled 3,020 vessels of 3,874,234 tons, or practically 30 per cent. of the total tonnage. The increase in a great measure, was due to the resumption by Japanese vessels of trade routes abandoned during the war, and, to a certain extent, to an expansion directly resulting from the war, and caused by the purchase and capture of ships. The increase in Japanese shipping accounts for the decrease in shipping under the British, German, and Norwegian flags experienced in the year under review, Japanese vessels replacing those of the countries which had supplied vessels to take the place of the Japanese ships temporarily withdrawn. But, after allowing for tonnage so replaced, there is still an increase in Japanese shipping of some 650,000 tons in 1906 over 1903, the year before the war. The Consul rightly refuses to accept the comparison of the trade in 1906 with that of 1904-5 as a true criterion of the position, holding the latter to cover an abnormal period. As might have been expected, Japanese shipping has increased in far greater proportion since 1903 than that under foreign flags. Nevertheless, says the Consul, it is satisfactory to observe that British shipping shows an increase of over 250,000 tons on 1,455,000 tons in 1903, or 17 per cent.; Germany has added 175,000 tons, or 40 per cent.; Norway, 15,772 tons, or nearly 28 per cent.; France, 70,442 tons, or 56 per cent.; and the United States, 338,379 tons, or 104 per cent., since the same year. The table tends to remove the unsatisfactory impression which at a first glance one obtains of the position of British shipping as recorded in the consular returns, which shows a marked decline during the last three years; 634 ships of 1,768,542 tons were entered in 1906 as compared with 922 ships of 2,493,733 tons entered in 1903, the figures for the former year being also less than those for 1904. Judging, however, from the customs returns, it is satisfactory to note that there was in reality an increase from 1,454,843 tons in 1903 to 1,709,957 tons in 1906, after reaching 1,807,771 tons in 1905. Thus while the employment of British tonnage, so far as Kobe is concerned, showed less activity in 1906, actual trade by means of British ships seems to have increased. It would be futile, however, to [illegible] the extent to which Japanese shipping has "cut in" and is preparing to oust foreign shipping. Mr. Bonar's remarks regarding the "cutting in" process of the Japanese shipping companies cannot be ignored although of course it is impossible to make too much of them. The British share of the imports and exports at Kobe continued to show practically the same average in 1906 as in 1905, the figures being 40 per cent. of the total in the former year as against 41 in the latter, while the direct trade with the United Kingdom was 17 and 16 per cent. respectively. Referring to the trade which has grown up in consequence of the operations of the Siberian railway, it is noted that Vladivostok has shown a large demand for cheap, ready-made, European-style clothing made in Osaka. Whether the United States has any chance of appropriating a share of this trade is not mentioned, which would seem to suggest that the Consul holds the opinion that Osaka is likely to provide all that is required by the moujiks for some years to come. The point of the report, however, is the probability of Kobe's predominance as the leading Japanese port on the Pacific—although that is not how the Consul puts it. Mr Bonar simply speaking of the fact that "Kobe is destined to be the leading port on the Pacific." In any event the merchants of Kobe, both foreign and native, may be congratulated on the result of their exertions to build up the trade of the port and, if all predictions come true, it is to be hoped that they will be the first to benefit by Kobe's prosperity.

PLAGUE PREVENTION AND RAT EXTERMINATION.

(23rd January.)

Nothing can be more satisfactory to the general community of Hongkong than the knowledge that His Excellency Sir Frederick Lugard devoted a portion of his valuable time to a consideration of that perennial subject of discussion the extermination of rats in order to prevent the propagation of plague. So frequently has this question been before the public, and under so many guises has it appeared, that those who were originally the prime movers in any scheme which promised to secure the end desired found their enthusiasm dwindling, until it had almost reached the disappearing stage. Moreover, the subject had been threshed out and argued backwards and forwards with such zeal and so exhaustively that it seemed as if the last word had been said on one of the thorniest problems connected with the local government of Hongkong. A variety of schemes has been proposed and many have been tried, but invariably they have been discarded as unworkable or unsuitable in a Colony mainly peopled by Chinese. When the supreme test of their application to native conditions has been made the schemes for the extinction of disease as conveyed from house to house through the medium of rats has been found to be miserably inadequate or offensive to the susceptibilities of a population which objects to official interference in any shape or form, particularly when that interference is connected with their domestic affairs. In the days of Hongkong's opulence, money has been squandered with a lavish hand on projects for the destruction of the rat tribe but all to little or no effect, mainly it is believed owing to the slothfulness of the Chinese and the general discontent aroused as the result of the action of those charged with the operation of these projects. When Sir Frederick Lugard came to this Colony it is not to be supposed that he he'd any preconceived notions on the subject of Asiatic plague, and therefore he was in the fortunate position of bringing an open mind to the consideration of the question. The minute which His Excellency framed for presentation to the members of the Sanitary Board bears the imprint of acute reasonableness, perceptive deduction and frank recognition of the position in every line. In a modest aside he observes: "My suggestions are not heroic and are mostly homely." Is it not possible that the admitted failure of past proposals has been due to their heroic qualities? How could the Chinese coolie, whose personal and private affairs are most closely affected by sweeping reforms, be expected to understand the nature of movements whose purpose is not clearly palpable from the outset? If any scheme for the eradication of plague is to be successful it must attract by its simplicity the interest of the people most concerned—or, as the Governor would say, by its homeliness. There is not the slightest doubt that the methods for the rat-catching staff—for which they are not to blame—have given such general annoyance that the results achieved have been practically nil. Had more improved conditions seemed likely to accrue the ability of the people and their passive resistance to official operations have rendered the general scheme nugatory and valueless. Sir Frederick Lugard's impromptu [illegible] sound observations, although that is not to say it is above criticism. It is valuable on account of its extremely suggestive ideas—which may move others to advance proposals that may prove acceptable. With two of His Excellency's suggestions we fancy that doubts regarding their feasibility will arise. For example, were householders to acquire a partial and very questionable immunity from sanitary or building regulations because of their possession of cats the Colony would in no time be swarming with hosts of owndless, decrepit and miserable animals which had been cast out by overburdened ratepayers. It may be the duty of mankind to nurture and replenish the earth, but when it comes to an army of starving and wretched cats let Tommy Atkins and Jack Tar, themselves [illegible] and send for themselves, then it will be found that in the area of most people's acquaintance with that order has been somewhat [illegible] does not [illegible] and [illegible] should be a monetary reward for rats captured and destroyed by private citizens it will not bear scrutiny, and His Excellency was well advised when he cancelled that suggestion. With regard to the advisability of extending the use of poison, we devoted considerable space some months ago to a description of a new chemical compound known as Ratin—evidently the same substance as that which had been brought to the Governor's attention. It was stated that Ratin was innocuous except so far as rats were concerned, and that thereby the chief difficulty of dealing with poison for the rodent race, without leaving any loophole open for accidents to children or pet animals, was eliminated. The only thing was that Ratin would not keep for more than four to six weeks and its particular virtue evaporated more quickly in hot climates than in cold. It was expected, however, that an agent would be found whereby the effectiveness of the poison could be retained for an extended period and probably, by this time, the difficulty has been overcome. In any case, it is the manifest duty of the Sanitary Board to make inquiries on the subject and to secure specimens of this rat-eradicator from London in order that experiments may be carried out with the object of proving its value. Sir Frederick Lugard in his minute referred to the means adopted to prevent the introduction of the vermin by way of vessels from foreign ports. The authorities have decreed that ships lying at the wharves should have funnel attachments on their mooring ropes under heavy penalties for contravention of the order. We have always been extremely sceptical of the efficacy of this method of preventing ingress to the unwelcome strangers. Usually the funnels are so wide that there is nothing to hinder a young and active rat from crawling through the smaller end of the funnel or climbing over it altogether. Hongkong rats are apparently able to walk on the roof, if all stories be true, and they certainly think nothing of scampering gaily along perpendicular pillars, no matter how highly burnished these may be. Then, again why should a rat and a Canton specimen of the tribe at that, endanger its spine by working its way through a funnel and along a light rope when it can walk quietly ashore by means of the half-dozen gangways which are placed for the convenience of passengers and cargo carriers? The intelligence of the rats in these parts is abnormal, and if they are to be exterminated the simple methods which suffice in other countries will have to be abandoned for more ingenious devices whose purpose is less obvious. If the end the Government has in mind is to be achieved at all it must be through the co-operation freely offered and continuously given by the Chinese of all classes. Whenever the people are really interested the "death-knell of the rat" has been sounded. It is for the leaders of the Chinese in Hongkong—not the vociferous, self-advertising class, but the leaders and rulers of Chinese employes, whose word is law and whose actions inspire confidence—to come forward and determine how that should best be done and the [illegible] His Excellency has given magnificent proof of his keen attention to the claims of this vastly important question, and we trust his efforts in the direction of reform will secure that reward and success which they certainly deserve.

KOWLOON-CANTON RAILWAY.

When Sir Matthew Nathan left the helm in favour of his successor he must have been sincerely grateful to a benign providence which permitted him to depart in peace before the financial difficulties of Hongkong became too insistent to be disregarded. We rejoiced in the coming of Sir Frederick Lugard—a new broom methinks as an administrator had been thoroughly tried and proved in another corner of the Empire, but we were fully prepared to commiserate him on the strain he would be called upon to undergo in the struggle to adjust the finances of the Colony to its actual needs and to the development of those works to which the Colony had been committed. His Excellency ever entertained roseate visions of the golden and opulent East he must have been disillusioned almost immediately his attention was directed to the financial conditions existent in Hongkong. It is practically impossible to find that it would be necessary to curtail expenditure and even minor matters of local importance must have had to go by the board in face of the stringency in the revenue; but no speak of the nebulous prospects of the future. One of the great works undertaken by the Government was the construction of the Kowloon-Canton railway, an undertaking which we firmly believe will prove [illegible] able to the continued prosperity of the Colony when it is complete, although at present it is little short of an [illegible] on our narrow resources. That the members of the Legislative Council should have expressed surprise at the magnitude of the expenditure, comparatively speaking, demanded for the building of a line of some [illegible] length, is not to be wondered at, and the Government find themselves placed in a quandary they have only themselves to blame. In all other matters the Government have taken the Legislative Council freely and fully into their confidence, which, of course means that the public obtained at least a partial knowledge of how their hard-earned money was being spent. But the Kowloon-Canton railway was established ab initio on principles of secrecy and disregard of public opinion which is much to be deprecated. After His Excellency had decided as to the allocation of the funds required for public works, he was [illegible] with the greatest [illegible] of all and whatever his private opinions may be—and they are bound to coincide [illegible] with those who see in the railway scheme the opening up of a mine of illimitable prosperity—he must have felt that many of the heaviest burdens that the people of this Colony have had to bear in connection with public works could have been avoided had the Government been more communicative. [illegible] that the Kowloon-Canton railway was one of the great works of the future, and that the Colony would be amply repaid for the outlay, but the Council were entitled to know what the Government's estimate of the cost would be, and to be informed when the Government [illegible] make [illegible]

million dollars to provide for the work which is projected for 1908. Had the members of the Council been kept in touch with the progress of the railway there would have been none of that lifting of eyebrows and expressions of wonderment which were witnessed yesterday. And there would have been none of those disagreeable revelations as to the reasons which had led to the necessity for this unexpectedly large outlay. What we still know of the railway could be comfortably contained in a cocked hat, and if the signs are read aright there is not much more information to be given. The original estimate of the total cost of the railway was put at £550,000; it will now be in the neighbourhood of a million pounds sterling. Instead of one tunnel having to be pierced the latest survey shows that several occur along the route. The Government after purchasing land wholesale at the outset now find that much of that land is left on their hands, and negotiations have to be entered into for the acquisition of new rights-of-way. And, among other things, we learn that as usual our old friends the Crown Agents have a finger in the pie. He would have been a stranger indeed to the Far East who could not have made what in the circumstances would have proved a happy guess that the Crown Agents—even when concerned with the disposition of their quarters in new palaces in London—were tinkering and tampering with the original scheme. Heaven seems to be against them, for whatever they undertake seems to be followed by the malice of some evil sprite, of whom they cannot rid themselves. But as somebody else pays the piper perhaps the dreams of the Crown Agents are not greatly disturbed. However, the fact is clear that now we are embarked on the Kowloon-Canton railway we must get through with the business one way or another. The Government must have $4,250,000 and although the vote has been held over till certain questions have been answered to the satisfaction of the Council members the Government will get what they want. There is therefore nothing to be gained by haggling over the matter or raking up grievances which will do nobody any good. More, it casts a certain reflection on the administration of His Excellency the Governor and that is wholly unjustified. Even that rampant Irishman, the Colonial Secretary, who loves nothing better than a fight when he is the one alleged to be at fault, had perforce to sit as mute as the harp that hangs on Tara's halls. He nearly became sarcastic when he said: "In dealing with a tunnel you are really working in the dark." Compare that with the joyous spirit which animated Mr. May when he felt that his department was being enfiladed by the elected members in the early months of last year. No rapier-thrust in those days and no still wine for others to quaff; nothing but gaily flashing steel and sparkling usquebragh. The railway requirements are great and will mean the starving of other schemes, but the fault lies not here and, consequently, it should not be pressed as an offence against the administration of the Colony. Perhaps, however, the exclamations of astonishment which greeted the list of funds required by the railway engineer for the work in 1908 will induce the Governor to be a little more explicit in the future than his predecessor was in the past regarding the progress made on the railway.

THE COST OF MARKET COMMODITIES.

(24th January.)

Unless we are sadly mistaken, the possible withdrawal from the newspapers of what was supposed to be the official list of market prices will impose but little hardship or inconvenience on those who look after the daily domestic requirements of Hongkong households. It may be that a few skinflints and some amateur statisticians who found an interesting though extremely unprofitable occupation in comparing the printed rates with the cook's amended list of charges will find themselves deprived of the pleasure of proving that the average Chinese *chef* is an adept in the art of chicinery and prevarication, but it is long since the general community put any faith in the published list. It has never been precisely stated how the list was prepared, although we may presume that the authority responsible for its production made a number of inquiries at the various stalls, struck an average and issued the document with which we are all familiar. The Sanitary Board, under whose auspices the prices were collated, disclaimed all power to compel the stallholders to abide by the rates quoted, the inspector who signed the list seems to have performed that duty very much as a matter of form, and the stallholders, in sublime disregard of any list or no list, followed the dictates of their own conscience, which usually meant that they demanded a little more than they expected to receive and accepted a good deal more than the buyer had expected to pay. Now that the Board has decided that the post of market inspector shall be abolished, the duties of that officer being performed by the district inspector, and that no signature shall be attached to the current market price-list, whatever value that sheet ever possessed has absolutely disappeared. Perhaps it may be held that as the list never had any value and was invariably repudiated by those who had anything to do with it, no adequate reason has been submitted why its publication should be discontinued, and with that view we must confess ourselves in hearty agreement. There was ever a dignity about the alleged official list, a suggestion that people could live on next to nothing in Hongkong if only they disbursed their money with ordinary caution, so that in time it is just possible that the humorous aspect of the matter might have been merged in the consideration of its honoured age. But it is to be feared that the hand of the reformer is heavy in the land and even this relic of the past will be relegated to the limbo of the forgotten. As we have said, it has never been quite clear how the prices were arranged, whether a syndicate of dealers in the different sections arrived at a general average which suited their purpose or whether it was the result of private investigations, but this much is certain, the Chinese purchaser could always obtain his supplies at lower prices than those quoted while the European generally had to pay higher. If the dollar declined in value up went the cost of meat, poultry, fish, fruit and vegetables; if it advanced it was an understood thing that no variation in the price of silver could affect the price of local commodities. Should the inexperienced visitor persist in protesting against the continued increase in the cost of domestic necessaries, then the stallholder blandly drew attention to the indisputable fact that the stall rents had been rising annually with the natural result that the successful candidates—that is to say, those who had offered the highest rents—had to advance their retail prices in order to make both ends meet. In the end the inquirer would find himself baffled at every turn. The question of the stall rents is, of course, one of the utmost difficulty to settle satisfactorily. The Government could never bestow the stalls on favoured individuals without rendering itself open to the charge of favouritism. On the other hand, the disposal of the stalls by auction offers undoubted advantages to the man with the longest purse, or in other words, the capitalist, and also offers certain inducements to the formation of syndicates and combines. So long, however, as individual dealers are allowed to sell their goods outside the regular markets the danger resulting from the establishment of a quasi-monopolistic system is comparatively trifling. It has often been said that Europeans could not compete with Chinese dealers in comestibles, but apparently, so far as the meat market is concerned, Europeans are in a level footing with the natives, in Japan at least. We learn that in Yokohama the Butchers' Guild adopted a policy which had for its object the "squeezing" of the foreigner. Continual increases in the cost of meat were recorded, until the system savoured of nothing more or less than blood-sucking. Now, the *Japan Herald* is pleased to note that the members of this despotic ring have met their match at last, and the facts which have led up to the partial overthrow of their plans are of sufficient interest to warrant publication. The credit for this success is largely due to a foreigner whose duty it is to make large purchases of meat daily on behalf of a local institution. Somewhat incensed at the constant rise in the price of meat, and knowing full well that it was but another attempt to "squeeze" the foreign customers, the foreigner above referred to threatened to transfer his patronage to another dealer if the new schedule of prices were adhered to. Our contemporary proceeds to state that a threat to start an opposition store was merely met by the Guild butchers with the retort that the attempt had been tried before, and had resulted in a foreign firm losing money in the venture. The foreigner in question, however, resolved not to be browbeaten, and after canvassing the leading hotels, and securing their promise of support, succeeded in persuading a Japanese greengrocer to open a store, and to sell meat at the figure which prevailed before the recent advance made by the combine. The member of the Guild, who had previously assumed an adamantine attitude, seeing the danger of losing trade, at once began to make overtures to the foreigners with a view to regaining his patronage, but the effort was unsuccessful. In another column of the *Japan Herald* is the advertisement of the Japanese who has now opened business, and our contemporary commends him to the attention of the foreign community, who it is hoped, will accord him a full measure of support. "Business men have a perfect right to conduct their own business as they wish," adds the *Herald*, "but when that business amounts to a monopoly detrimental to the public interest, and is aimed at one section of the community, it is time a public protest should be raised, and steps taken to combat the evil." We doubt, however, whether such direct opposition would prove a success in Hongkong, where the Chinese breeders, stockowners and dealers work hand in hand and control the market. However desirable it might be to secure a reduction in the price of general commodities it is probable that such an end could not be attained without involving a general boycott by those who have established the trade and are in a position to direct the movements of the market. Boycotts are unpleasant things to deal with and once introduced are apt to take root as desirable methods of expressing opposition, so that it seems probable that the only thing European or other purchasers can afford themselves the privilege of doing is to grin and make the best of it.

Telegrams.

"HONGKONG TELEGRAPH" SERVICE.

THE THREATENED SHANGHAI BOYCOTT.

ARREST OF JANG SENG-ZUNG.

STRONG PROTEST BY CHINESE MAGISTRATE.

[*From Our Own Correspondent.*]

Shanghai, 20th January, 11.55 a.m.

Mr. Pao, assistant magistrate of the Mixed Court, has entered a strong protest against the arrest of Jang Seng-zung without a warrant.

FIRE AT SHANGHAI.

OVER MILLION DOLLARS DAMAGE.

MESSRS. BURKILL'S GODOWN BURNT OUT.

[*From Our Own Correspondent.*]

Shanghai, 21st January, 12.5 p.m.

There was a serious conflagration here last night.

Fire broke out in Messrs. Burkill and Son's godown and continued to burn fiercely for several hours. The godown was completely gutted before the fire could be got under.

The damage is estimated at over a million dollars.

While the conflagration was in progress a nasty wind was blowing thus seriously threatening, for some hours, the premises of the Chartered Bank of India, Australia and China and of the *North China Daily News*.

The Fire Brigades had a most difficult task in combatting the flames.

SHANGHAI WATCH CLUB.

ORDERED TO BE CLOSED.

MANAGER THOMAS PROSECUTED FOR ALLEGED FALSE PRETENCES.

[*From Our Own Correspondent.*]

Shanghai, 23rd January, 12.5 p.m.

The Shanghai Watch Club has been ordered to be closed.

Mr. H. P. Wilkinson, Crown Advocate, charges Mr. Thomas, manager of the "Club," for alleged false pretences.

In its editorial "Notes and Comments," on the 16th inst., the *N. C. D. News* observes:—

We are glad to see that the attention of the Council has been drawn at last to the Watch and Cycle "clubs" of which it will be a surprise to many residents to learn that there are no less than seventy already in existence in the Settlement. The circumstance that one of these has defaulted emphasizes the fact that these so-called clubs belong to a species of institution that can be honestly managed, but frequently is not. In the mushroom growth of innumerable imitators lies their chief pernicioussness, they are seized upon as offering a promising "get-rich-quick" system, and sooner or later the public is let in. Our Municipal bye-laws empower the Council to withhold its sanction from lotteries; throughout the United States, the *fons et origo* of these "clubs," they have been pronounced to be lotteries within the meaning of the law and as such are prohibited. They have figured in the Philippines, but only to be closed down. In Shanghai they would seem to have found fertile soil. It remains to be seen whether the community will benefit by the experience of the United States and be rid of them in time, or will wait for some unfortunate fiasco among the lesser fry before taking action. At least the interests of the public should be safeguarded by requiring petty concerns whose sole business consists in receiving money instalments over a stated period before meeting their liabilities to make a substantial deposit in a local bank as a proof of bona fides.

SHANGHAI MUNICIPAL ELECTION.

THE "N.-C. DAILY NEWS" AGAINST GERMAN AND AMERICAN CANDIDATES.

A WORKABLE COUNCIL DESIRED.

[*From Our Own Correspondent.*]

Shanghai, 23rd January, 12.5 p.m.

In a leading article this morning, the *North-China Daily News* urges the Municipal electors to throw out one German and one American candidate, with a view of ensuring a workable Council during the coming year.

Dealing with the subject of the Municipal election, on the 16th inst., our Shanghai contemporary announced that eleven names had been submitted for the nine posts, and on January 23 and 24 the community would be called upon to make its selection. Of the eleven nominees seven have served on the outgoing Council, of which the two members who do not seek re-election are Mr. E. B. Skottowe and Mr. J. C. Hanson, both due to take prolonged leave this spring. The new candidates for municipal honours are Mr. W. A. C. Platt, Mr. R. S. F. McBain, both former Councillors, Herr C. Stepharius, who must be regarded as a rival for the German seat, and Mr. D. Coath, who represents new American blood. On the face of things the issue is one of personal predilection. The Settlement has the satisfaction of knowing that there are at least eleven men capable and willing to serve it, and the outgoing Council receives a tacit endorsement of its policy in so far as the new nominees may be supposed to be candidates in the main for the two vacancies.

THE HONGKONG LAND RECLAMATION COMPANY, LTD.

ANNUAL REPORT.

The sixth report of the Board of Directors to the ordinary meeting of shareholders to be held at the company's offices, Victoria Buildings, at 11.15 a.m., on Tuesday, the 28th inst., reads:—

Gentlemen,—The directors have now to submit to you a general statement of the affairs of the company, and balance sheet for the year ending 31st December, 1907.

The net profits for the year, including $349,841.05 brought forward from last account after paying all charges amount to $358,135.99. It is now proposed to pay a dividend of 7% on the paid up capital after providing for which and writing off directors' and auditor's fees there remains a balance of $287,410.99 to be carried to credit of a new profit and loss account.

DIRECTORS

Mr. D. M. Nissim having resigned, Mr. E. Shellim was invited to join the Board and this appointment now requires confirmation.

Messrs. E. Shellim and Ho Tung now retire, but offer themselves for re-election.

AUDITORS.

The accounts have been audited by Messrs. W. H. Potts and A. O'D Gourdin, who now retire, and are recommended for election.

HENRY KESWICK,
Chairman.

Hongkong, 14th January, 1908.

BALANCE SHEET TO 31ST DECEMBER, 1907.

Liabilities.

December 31, 1907.

Capital—25,000 shares at $100 each=$2,500,000, of which are issued 12,500 shares at $100 each=$1,250,000, $75 per share paid up	$937,500.00
Loans payable	599,000.00
Accounts payable	30.85
Balance of profit and loss a/c	358,135 99
	$ 1,595,666.84

Assets.

December 31, 1907.

Cash,	$ 1,534.17
Amounted invested in mortgages,	272,172.69
Amount invested in property,	1,312,490.58
Furniture,	658.35
Accounts receivable,	108,811.07
	$1,595,666.84

PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT.
December 31st, 1907.
Dr.

To Charges account		$ 7,520.67
„ Repairs to property		344.00
„ Crown rent account		1,894.00
„ Government rates account		446.16
„ Fire insurance account		487.75
Balance to be appropriated as follows:—		
Directors' fees	$ 5,000.00	
Auditors' fees	10.00	
Dividend of 7% for the year	65,625.00	
Balance to be carried to new account	287,410.99	
		358,135.99
		$368,828.57

January 1st to December 31st, 1907.
Cr.

By Balance from 1906,	$ 349,841.05
„ Interest,	12,043.22
„ Rents,	6,027.30
„ Scrip fees,	85.00
	$ [illegible]

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

A meeting of the Legislative Council was held in the Council Chamber last Thursday. Present:—His Excellency the Governor, Sir Frederick Lugard, K.C.M.G., Hon. Mr. F. H. May, C.M.G., (Colonial Secretary), Hon. Mr. A. M. Thomson (Colonial Treasurer), Hon. Mr. W. Chatham, C.M.G. (Director of Public Works), Hon. Capt. Basil R. H. Taylor, R.N., (Harbour Master), Hon. Mr. A. W. Brewin (Registrar-General), Hon. Dr. Ho Kai, M.B., C.M.G., Hon. Mr. Wei Yuk, Hon. Mr. E. A. Hewett, Hon. Mr. H. E. Pollock, K.C., Hon. Mr. Henry Keswick, Hon. Mr. E. Osborne and Mr. A. G. M. Fletcher (Clerk of Councils).

ABSENT.

His Excellency Major-General R. G. Broadwood, C.B., (Officer Commanding the Troops).
Hon. Mr. W. Rees Davies (Attorney General).

MINUTES.

The minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed.

PAPERS.

The Colonial Secretary laid on the table the following papers:—

Report of the Subsidiary Coin Committee (No. 1 of 1908).

Kowloon-Canton Railway. (British Section.) Statement of Expenditure to 31st December, 1907. (No. 2 of 1908).

FINANCIAL MINUTES.

The Colonial Secretary laid on the table Financial Minutes Nos. 1 and 2. It was agreed that they be referred to the Finance Committee.

PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE.

The Director of Public Works laid on the table the report of the Public Works Committee, No. 1 of 1908. The report deals principally with the Harbour of Refuge for small craft. The recommendations of the Committee are printed in another section of this issue.

KOWLOON-CANTON RAILWAY.

The Colonial Secretary:—I beg that the resolution standing in my name be, in the first instance, referred to the Finance Committee. The resolution was as follows:—It is hereby resolved that a sum of four million two hundred and fifty thousand dollars be advanced out of funds in the custody of the Government for the purpose of construction of the Kowloon-Canton Railway (British section) during the year 1908.

The Colonial Treasurer seconded and the motion was agreed to.

CHINESE EMIGRATION.

The Colonial Secretary moved and the Colonial Treasurer seconded the first reading of a Bill entitled An Ordinance to amend the Chinese Emigration Ordinance, 1889.

The object of the Bill is to empower ships especially licensed for the South African coolie traffic under section 21 (a) of Ordinance 1 of 1889 and returning from Durban with repatriates to proceed direct to their port of discharge in North China instead of calling at Hongkong on the return voyage as is at present necessary. It is also desired to improve the means of safeguarding the interests of assisted emigrants and at the same time to relieve free emigrants from certain provisions as to residence in boarding houses which are found to be vexatious and unnecessary.

The Bill was read a first time.

STATUTORY EVIDENCE ADMISSION.

On the motion of the Colonial Secretary, seconded by the Colonial Treasurer, the Bill entitled An Ordinance to facilitate the admission in evidence of statutes passed by the Legislatures of British possessions and British protectorates including Cyprus, passed the first reading.

FIRE INSURANCE COMPANIES.

The Bill entitled An Ordinance to authorize the removal of Fire Insurance Companies from the Register of Companies in certain cases, was read a first time, on the motion of the Colonial Secretary, seconded by the Colonial Treasurer.

FIRE BRIGADE.

The Colonial Secretary moved the second reading of the Bill entitled An Ordinance to amend the Fire Brigade Ordinance, 1868. He said that, in addition to the reasons given in the objects and reasons of the Bill, he would say that the object of that Ordinance was to give the Captain Superintendent of Police, who was also Superintendent of the Fire Brigade, the same powers over men under his command in the Fire Brigade as he possessed over men under his command in the police force. It was well to bear in mind in this connection that all European members of the Fire Brigade, with the exception of two, were also members of the Police Force. Under the regulations which would be framed by the Governor-in-Council under that Bill when it became law, the two European members who were not members of the Police force would not be made subject to the punishments which could be inflicted by the Captain Superintendent of Police, their ranks being such as to render it undesirable that punishment be inflicted upon them. The remainder of the Brigade were Chinese, and it was extremely desirable that the Superintendent should have power to punish those Chinese firemen directly, himself, in the same way as he punished Chinese constables in the Police Force.

The Colonial Treasurer seconded and the Bill was read a second time.

The Bill was then considered in Committee, and passed with a slight amendment.

ADJOURNMENT.

The Council was adjourned until this day week.

FINANCE COMMITTEE.

A meeting of the Finance Committee was held immediately after the meeting of Council, the Colonial Secretary presiding. It was agreed to recommend that the following votes be adopted by the Council:—

INFECTED CARGO COMPENSATION.

A sum of three thousand four hundred and thirty-three dollars in aid of the vote, Sanitary Department, other charges, compensation for infected cargo destroyed.

COMPENSATION TO SQUATTERS.

A sum of one thousand three hundred and three dollars as compensation to certain squatters whose removal was necessitated by the sale of Kowloon Inland Lot 1203.

KOWLOON-CANTON RAILWAY.

EXCESSIVE COST OF LINE.

UNOFFICIAL MEMBERS' PROTEST.

The Chairman invited members' attention to the estimated expenditure paper dealing with the Kowloon-Canton Railway up to December 1908. In connection with that statement he informed members that the headings of Nos. 3 and 4 columns were not quite as clear as they might be. The heading of No. 3 column read "estimated total expenditure for 1907." The intention of the draughtsman was that the word "for" should mean "to the end of." It really should be to the end of 1907. The expenditure for 1906 was included in that for 1907. The same explanation applied to the next column. The approximate outlay for 1907 was included with the 1906 expenditure. If any member wished for any information concerning the items appearing under the seperate heads he would be glad to give it.

Hon. Mr. Keswick—I wish for some information. We are asked to vote the large sum of $4,250,000 and I am not at all satisfied that we are getting full value for our money as things are going. Before voting on this proposed provision I should like to be satisfied that the work is getting on well, and that the estimates are as correct as can be, otherwise at the end of 1908 we shall have another vote, and be called upon again to make up deficiencies above the estimate.

The Chairman stated, in reply, that, on the whole, the progress of the work to date was satisfactory. The main tunnel was not as far forward as the consulting engineer had estimated it would be; but of course in dealing with a tunnel, one was really working in the dark; and the tunnel had proved an extremely difficult one so far. He was glad to be able to say that recently the progress in the tunnel had improved very much, largely owing to the fact that the rock met with was more amenable. At the same time he thought it was right to state that the estimate on that particular item of the tunnel would largely exceed the original estimate. In fact there was no concealing the fact that the estimate for the whole railway was much larger than had been originally estimated for.

Hon. Mr. Keswick—Can you tell us what the original estimate for the railway was?

The Chairman—The original estimate was £550,000.

Hon. Mr. Keswick—And at the end of this year we shall have expended $7,161,461, and the railway will not be built? There has been a saving in regard to the work done on bridges.

Hon. Mr. Hewett inquired if they had a special engineer in charge of that work.

The Chairman—The overseer at the work has had large experience in tunnels, and there is a superintendent who has been in the habit of organising labour in tunnels.

Hon. Mr. Hewett—I believe it was not so originally.

The Chairman—He came out about four or five months ago, but there is no question of the capacity of the engineer in dealing with tunnels.

Hon. Mr. Pollock asked for an estimate of what there was to pay for the building of the British section.

The Chairman—The estimate as it stands is $8,000,000 exclusive practically of land. There are other items such as construction and engineering staff, a considerable expenditure for land preparation, station sites and buildings such as the terminus station.

Hon. Mr. Pollock—Land includes land resumption. That is a particularly big item. I think we should have some information about that.

The Chairman—I am unable to place you in possession of the facts. Since the original estimate was formed a larger view of the interests has been taken, and the Government has recently acquired by resumption Blackhead's property near Blackhead's Point. That of course means a very considerable sum of money.

Hon. Mr. Pollock—How much?

The Chairman—The formalities are not actually concluded. I would rather not mention the figure.

After some discussion on the question of a new alignment necessitating a re-survey and an expenditure of $25,000,

Hon. Mr. Keswick observed that the salaries seemed to have increased, and there was a large expenditure on quarters, office expenses, medical charges, etc.

The Chairman—Of course, the salaries increase as the work progresses. We want more men in the tunnel the further we get in. The expenditure in regard to the quarters is accounted for in this way: Shatin was found to be very malarious, and it was decided on medical advice that the European staff quarters should be at a considerable height above the level of the valley. That necessitated a larger increase in expenditure.

On the question of cost, Mr. Keswick remarked that they found themselves liable for £1,600,000 sterling for a line 22 miles long; that seemed to him an exceedingly large sum. He understood the country was difficult and the tunnel would be exceedingly expensive; economies might be made in the supervision of the work. A million seemed an extraordinary sum for 22 miles of railway.

The Chairman—I am not an engineer, but this has been pronounced one of the most difficult pieces of railway work in China.

In reply to questions by Mr. Hewett, the Chairman stated that the engineer-in-chief estimated the completion of the railway for March, 1910.

After some further discussion, the Chairman intimated that there was no desire to rush the vote through in any way. If members wished for further information, and they gave Government particular points on which they desired information he would inform His Excellency of their desires, and His Excellency would only be too anxious to give all the information in his power, but it would be useful if they could have some definite point on which information was desired. He promised to report the proceedings to His Excellency, and undertook to get out a statement which he hoped would satisfy the members.

The committee then adjourned.

HUMPHREYS ESTATE AND FINANCE CO., LTD.

ANNUAL REPORT.

The report of the directors for the year ending 31st December, 1907, for presentation to the shareholders at the ordinary annual general meeting of the company, to be held at the registered offices of the company, Alexandra Buildings, Des Vœux Road, at noon on Friday, the 31st day of January, 1908, reads:—

Gentlemen.—The directors now beg to submit to you their report and statement of accounts for the year ending 31st December, 1907.

The net profit for that period amounts to	$108,948.84
To which has to be added the balance brought forward from last account	11,567.15
	$120,515.99
And from this have to be deducted:—	
Remuneration to directors 5% commission on net profits	$5,447.44
Remuneration to general managers 5% commission on net profits	5,447.44
	10,894.88
Leaving available for appropriation	$109,621.11

The directors recommend that a dividend of seven per cent on the paid-up capital be paid to shareholders, absorbing $105,000.00 and that the balance of $4,621.11 be carried to a new profit loss account.

DIRECTORS.

During the year Dr. J. W. Noble was offered and accepted a seat on the Board. The Directors now are:—Messrs. A. G. Wood, J. Scott Harston, H. A. W. Slade, J. S. Van Buren, Ho Tung and Dr. J. W. Noble. In accordance with rule 76 of the company's articles of association they all retire, but being eligible offer themselves for re-election.

AUDITORS.

Mr. W. H. Gaskell having resigned, his place has been taken by Mr. H. Percy Smith who has, in conjunction with Mr. W. Hutton Potts, audited the accounts. Mr. Potts and Mr. Percy Smith offer themselves for re-election.

HENRY HUMPHREYS,
Chairman.

Hongkong, 17th January, 1908.

HARBOUR OF REFUGE.

COMMITTEE'S RECOMMENDATIONS.

MONG-KOK-TSUI SCHEME PROPOSED.

At the meeting of the Legislative Council last Thursday, the report of proceedings at a meeting of the Public Works Committee, held on the 4th inst., was laid on the table. The members present were the Director of Public Works (Hon. Mr. W. Chatham, C.M.G.), the Hon. Mr. E. Osborne and the Hon. Mr. Henry Keswick, the Colonial Treasurer and the Hon. Mr. E. A. Hewitt being absent.

The Chairman read the report of the last meeting (held on the 19th December, 1907) and a minute by His Excellency the Governor, dated the 30th November, 1907, with reference to the question of dredging or partly dredging and partly reclaiming Causeway Bay. In accordance with the decision come to at the last meeting, the following papers had been circulated to members:—

(*i.*) Mr. Boulton's report of 28th September, 1907, on the Mongkoktsui Scheme.

(*ii.*) Comparative statement of areas, cost &c., of Mongkoktsui and Kennedy Town Schemes.

(*iii.*) Estimated cost of Dredging Causeway Bay.

(*iv.*) Plan accompanying Mr. Boulton's report.

(*v.*) Chart No. 3280 with Mongkoktsui and Kennedy Town Schemes shown on it.

The minutes by members on the general question of improving the existing Harbour of Refuge and providing a new one were then read. The following is a brief abstract of them:—

MR. KESWICK.

Existing Harbour.—Causeway Bay should be immediately deepened. A depth of 9 feet all over, as proposed in the Public Works Department estimate, would be superfluous and it would suffice if the entire area were divided into three equal parts having depths of 9, 6 and 3 feet respectively.

New Harbour.—A harbour at Cheung Sha Wan would be preferable to one opposite Mongkoktsui on the grounds of economy. The Kennedy Town proposal would be a luxury and the minor Mongkoktsui Scheme an absolute waste of money.

MR. OSBORNE.

Existing Harbour.—Causeway Bay should be deepened so as to afford 10 feet depth along the north side, diminishing to 2 feet along the south side, but, as the area of the bay is insufficient, additional accommodation must be provided.

New Harbour.—A sheltered area of 100 acres is required. The Kennedy Town Scheme would be too costly and too small and, in a strong north-east wind, boats would be driven past it or wrecked on the breakwater. A breakwater at Cheung Sha Wan would be more sheltered than one at Mongkoktsui and would therefore be less costly and for that and other minor reasons it was to be preferred.

MR. HEWETT.

Existing Harbour.—Causeway Bay should be dredged as proposed by Mr. Keswick.

New Harbour.—This should be either at Mongkoktsui or Cheung Sha Wan, preferably the latter.

MR. THOMSON.

Existing Harbour.—The dredging of Causeway Bay should, if carried out, be as additional work.

New Harbour.—Kennedy Town Scheme is out of the question. Mongkoktsui Wan Scheme.

A report by Mr. Boulton, dated 3rd January, 1908, reviewing the points raised in the foregoing minutes was then read. It contained the following statements:—

Causeway Bay.—A comparison of old and new charts showed that no appreciable advance of the foreshore had occurred since the establishment of the Colony. Of the 5 nullahs discharging into the bay, only one drains bare hills which are likely to yield detritus and so produce silting; but this is counteracted by frequent dredging. The large dredgers in the Colony which might possibly be hired were unsuitable for the work suggested as it would be necessary, in order to provide flotation for them, to dredge to a depth far in excess of that specified. Special plant would have to be purchased to carry out the deepening suggested and, assuming that it were disposed of on completion of the work, the cost would probably amount to about $500,000. The removal of all material above the level of low water of *ordinary* spring tides could be done by manual labour and was estimated to cost about $70,000.

New Harbour.—The cost of a breakwater at Cheung Sha Wan, enclosing an area of 166 acres, was estimated roughly at $1,420,000 and, if the shallow areas opposite the ends of the breakwater had not been reclaimed by the time it was carried out, temporary groins would be required to restrict the width of the entrances. The scheme was as shewn on a tracing dated 25.7.04 in C.S.O. 9647/1903. A modified scheme to enclose an area of 100 acres at Cheung Sha Wan could be carried out at a cost estimated approximately at $1,200,000. The objection to both these proposals was that they would preclude the carrying out of an extensive reclamation scheme for which the bay was well adapted.

The proposed breakwater at Mongkoktsui was strengthened by the introduction of concrete blocks to a small extent, but otherwise it was of such a type as would be required at Cheung Sha Wan or elsewhere. Mongkoktsui was nearer the centre of the harbour than Cheung Sha Wan, a very important consideration in the case of a sudden storm.

The Chairman read the report of a Public Works Committee meeting held on the 25th October, 1906, at which the various possible sites for a harbour of refuge were considered, the result being that the Mongkoktsui site was unanimously recommended to Government.

RECOMMENDATIONS.

After full discussion, the members present agreed to the following recommendations:—

(*a.*) In view of the proposed reclamation scheme at Cheung Sha Wan, the Mongkoktsui scheme should be adopted and a condition should be made that the existing trading anchorage off Yaumati is not to be interfered with after the completion of the scheme.

(*b.*) In view of the great expense involved in carrying out any extensive scheme of dredging at Causeway Bay, which is really unnecessary for the requirements of the craft seeking refuge there, steps should be taken to provide a shallow depth of water over the area which at present dries at low water. This work should be regarded as an urgent one.

The Committee understand that the work recommended in (*b*) can be done by hired plant at a moderate cost.

A MEETING in Seoul at which Europeans have to be disarmed to enter is the latest development in Korea. One Japanese has been murdered, four others have been wounded, and a Korean has been killed.

DEPARTURE OF "KING ALFRED'S."

ADMIRAL MOORE'S COMPLIMENT.

H.M.S. "HAWKE" AND "CRESCENT" HOMEWARD BOUND.

18th inst.

Flying the paying-off pennant at the fore H.M.'s cruisers *Hawke* and *Crescent*, with the paid-off crew of H.M. flagship *King Alfred*, upon their termination of a most successful two years' commission, left the harbour this morning homeward bound. Before the *King Alfred's* took their departure from this station, they were honoured by a few parting remarks from the Commander-in-Chief yesterday forenoon. Sir Arthur Moore visited the senior ship—the *Hawke*—yesterday and in obedience to H.E.'s wishes the homeward bound men were mustered on the quarter deck of the cruiser. Addressing them, briefly, the Commander-in-Chief complimented the men on their smartness and efficiency during the happy commission that had just terminated. He wished them all, in conclusion, a happy voyage home. Leaving the *Hawke*, the Admiral then visited the *Crescent* and on board the cruiser the same pleasing function was gone through. H.E. then took his departure for the *King Alfred*.

At 9 o'clock this morning the *Hawke*, with the senior officer on board led the way from the man-of-war anchorage on the journey homewards. Following close on her wake was the *Crescent*. The cruisers went out westwards. As soon as they cast off the Bands of the fleet—H. M. S. *King Alfred*, *Bedford* and *Kent*—mustered on the foc'castle and for the next quarter of an hour the farewell airs, now so familiar in this harbour, filled the air. The Bands played in turn "Old Acquaintances," "Rolling Home," "Auld Lang Syne," and "Say Au Revoir."

The white ensigns of the *Hawke* and the *Crescent* dipped to the *King Alfred* as the senior ship, the flagship returning the compliment by running up the signal "Pleasant Voyage Home." From the German cruiser *Arcona* three ringing cheers went forth to the departing boys of the *King Alfred*—a compliment which must surely have been appreciated by the gallant British tars.

Slowly the *Hawke* and the *Crescent* steamed through the fairway and out by Sulphur Channel the grey hulls were soon lost to view. The cruisers will make a brief stay at Singapore, thence at Colombo, whence by way of Suez they proceed home, where an enthusiastic reception awaits the gunners of the China station who, during their two years' commission, established as many Naval world records.

MANILA CARNIVAL.

BIG SHOW POSTPONED.

The Carnival has been postponed until March 9, says the *Cablenews-American*. The preparations for the great show will go on with even more energy than before, and the pageant when given will be more entertaining than had been planned originally. There will be no stop in the work of making ready for the big festival, and the delay will serve only to enlarge the plans of the committees in charge and to give more time for the adequate preparation of the spectacles and the floats.

The postponement was decided on last evening at a meeting of the Executive Committee of the Carnival Association, the Governor General, the members of the Commission and the speaker and other Assemblymen, held at the Malacanan. The Director of Health of the Philippines, Dr. Heiser, stated that the presence of cholera in Manila and in the provinces had assumed a threatening aspect. There were no great number of cases but whereas usually cholera attacked only the poorer classes of Filipinos, in the last few days a number of Spaniards and Americans had taken the disease. He thought it best that the Carnival be postponed until the islands could be freed from cholera.

The Governor-General and others said that as Manila had invited guests from abroad, that it was only fair to these prospective visitors that word be sent to the countries about the Philippines that there was cholera here. He himself deemed it but the courtesy for which the Philippines were famed that we use every precaution to shield visitors from any possible inconvenience. If the Carnival were postponed until sometime later Dr. Heiser said he thought that the disease would be eradicated and there would then be no risk in having an immense assemblage here.

While there were some dissenting voices most of the present concurred and it was agreed by vote to set the date for Carnival at March 9. This will be when the dry season assures that everything will be propitious for an enjoyable fiesta.

Meanwhile the efforts of the men working for the success of the jollification will be directed toward perfecting every detail.

EDUCATION IN CHINA.

THE SCARCITY OF TEACHERS.

In the course of his very interesting report on China, Sir Alexander Hosie, Acting Commercial Attaché to the British Legation at Peking, has the following reference to education:—

"Although one hears of diminished attendance at schools in certain provinces of China, there can be no doubt that the thirst for education on Western lines is on the whole as keen as ever, and the difficulty is the lack of proper tuition. Educated teachers are scarce and many years must elapse before there can possibly be a sufficient supply. A short stay in Japan is too often considered sufficient equipment not only for teaching others but also for instructing the Chinese authorities, and it is a matter of satisfaction that the Chinese Government or provincial authorities have recently recognised the desirability of sending batches of students to the West where knowledge can be acquired at first hand. At present it appears that Western education cannot be absorbed without the use of cheap spectacles, and it is regrettable that the Customs returns do not supply details as to the quantity annually introduced into the country. To judge from the numbers one sees everywhere it must be great. But the Chinese student has an excuse. It must be remembered that each Chinese character is an ideograph—a picture of fairly large size—whereas the type of foreign books is to him extraordinarily small and he has to adjust his vision to it. There is some grumbling at being taxed to build schools, at being called upon to pay for what appears to yield no immediate benefit or result; and it is amusing to listen to the conversation of two of the highest officials in the Empire recalling, if not lamenting, old days (two or three years ago) when a tutor competent to finish the education of a whole family could be engaged at from 15 to 20 taels per month, whereas in these days several tutors have to be employed at much higher fees to impart the various branches of Western learning now considered necessary as a mental outfit."

ANGLO-CHINESE GOVERNMENT DISTRICT SCHOOLS.

PRESENTATION OF PRIZES.

18th inst.

His Excellency Sir Frederick Lugard, who was accompanied by Lady Lugard, and Mr. A. J. Brackenbury, private secretary, presented the prizes to the successful scholars of the Anglo-Chinese District Schools, at the Wanchai School, to-day. The little school house, which presented a most festive appearance, decorated with flags and pot plants, was well filled, among those present being Brother Sylvester, Mr. E. D. C. Wolfe, inspector of schools, Mrs. Wilkinson and Mrs. Morris, of the Victoria British School, Miss Bird, Mrs. Moore, Mrs. Young Hee, Mrs. Tutcher, Mrs. Hewett, Mrs. Green, Miss Elsinghouse, Mr. Mackenzie, Mr. Voemel, Rev. Bunbury, and a number of Chinese gentlemen.

The proceedings were started with the recitation of "The fox and the grapes," by a young scholar, which was loudly applauded, at the conclusion of which the reports of the schools were read by their respective headmasters.

YAUMATI DISTRICT SCHOOL.

Mr. Moore, the headmaster, said:—Your Excellencies, Ladies and Gentlemen:—I have much pleasure in presenting the fifth annual report on the work in Yaumati school during 1907. At the commencement of the school year the staff consisted:—Mr. Curwin, headmaster, Mr. J. C. Parkin, asst. master, and five Chinese asst. masters. On October 1st Mr. J. C. Parkin resigned and I was appointed to fill the vacancy. Then soon after Mr. W. Curwin, the headmaster, left for England on a year's well-earned leave, and I was appointed to act during his absence. In the early part of the year an addition was made to the staff by the appointment of Mr. Lo Pak Yeung as asst. vernacular master. I have nothing but praise for the work of the staff and the way in which they have assisted me. I should like this opportunity to thank Mr. Morris for his kind help and advice.

Football is the only recreation at present to be had by the boys, and in this they have made remarkable improvement. Owing to the impossibility of competing for the Schools' Shield with any commensurate success, it was decided to drop out of the League, and endeavour to obtain a cup for the three district schools. Mr. Wolfe, Inspector of Schools, however, has kindly offered a very handsome cup for this purpose. In concluding I would like to refer to Mr. Curwin's closing remarks last year. He said that this school was built to accommodate 200 pupils and the average number paying fees during the last nine months of that year was 203 so that the question of enlargement would soon have to be considered. During the past year the average number has been 220. It would appear, therefore, much more necessary now that the number is so much larger. (Applause).

Fees have increased from $3,555 to $4,079, and the average daily attendance has risen from 171 to 185. The highest number in attendance was 231 in May, and the lowest 162 in January. Empire Day was celebrated in the usual way and during the year excursions have been made along the new road to the new Kowloon reservoir, Railway tunnel, catch-water, etc. The teaching of this subject was continued this year with very good results. In the team examination this school tied with Saiyingpoon School for second place, and had it not been that two of the best pupils were ill we might have done better still. The four scholarships at Queen's College were all taken by our boys.

1st Lo Kwong Fuk ...obtained	85%	marks,
2nd Pang Fung I..... "	83%	"
3rd Yeung Ki San ... "	81%	"
4th Yeung King Chau "	75%	"

WANCHAI DISTRICT SCHOOL.

Mr. Young Hee said:—Your Excellency, Mr. Wolfe, Ladies and Gentlemen,—I have much pleasure in presenting my 5th annual report on the work of the Wanchai District School for the year just ended. It is my good fortune to again record substantial progress all round, and for the period during which I have been headmaster, each successive year has shown a steady and marked improvement. The staff was, at the beginning of 1907, strengthened by the addition of two assistant masters, one V and one VI grade, so that the staff for the year has been 7 assistants and myself. I take this opportunity of publicly thanking my assistants for their hearty co-operation in bringing the past year's work to a successful issue. The attendance has again greatly improved when compared with that of 1906. On the 1st January, there were 119 names on the school roll. On reassembling after the New Year vacation, 96 of the scholars returned, and 122 out of 129 new applicants were admitted. During the course of the year, 49 additional boys were enrolled, bringing the total for the year to 290, being an increase of 74 upon that of the previous year. For various reasons 86 left, and of these, about one-half entered Queen's College; many found situations with local commercial firms, and a number, through poverty, were unable to pay the necessary fee. The maximum monthly enrolment was 230 and the number on roll at the end of the year was 201. The school was open on 230 days, and the average daily attendance for the actual school year was 210, as compared with 146 for the preceding year. 42 boys registered the full attendance. The fees collected amount to $4,176, which is an increase of 38% upon that of 1906, and 78% upon that of 1905. The apparatus in the school is satisfactory; 75 dual desks are now in use, and more have been provided for in the Estimates for the current year. In view of the continued and steady growth of the school, more desks will be required when the school building has been extended as is proposed. A covered shed for a gymnasium has been erected on the playground; but owing to lack of accommodation, it has been temporarily utilized as a class room. Simple physical drill and exercises have been taught during the cool seasons, and were keenly appreciated by the boys. The pupils made many excursions to various places of interest in the Colony during the summer months which have proved most instructive and also rendered much valuable assistance to teaching of the local geography and English colloquial. Empire Day was celebrated in the usual way. The normal class under the supervision of the headmasters of the 3 district schools was conducted here during the first term and much useful work was done. The scholars' eyes were examined by Dr. Jordan and over 90% of them were diagnosed as suffering from trachoma. Fortunately, 55% of the cases were pronounced "mild," 32% "bad", and only 4% "very bad." Most of the cases have since been treated. A team from this school took part in the Hygiene Competition; but owing to the usual exodus of scholars from the higher classes at midsummer, the field of choice was limited and consequently we only gained the 4th place. The innovation of a half-holiday on Wednesday has been much appreciated both by masters and scholars. Football continues to be the favourite pastime, and much enthusiasm is displayed in the matches with other schools. The regular half-yearly and annual examinations have been held and the results communicated to the boys' guardians and relatives. The Inspector of Schools made his usual inspection last month; but his report is not yet to hand. In conclusion, Sir, I trust I may be allowed to express the hope that the proposed enlargement of the school be put in hand as early as possible. (Applause).

LIST OF PRIZE WINNERS.

Class IV.—General Proficiency—English: 1st Ip Kam-tseung, 2nd Wan Chi-kwan, 3rd Pang Shun. Chinese: 1st Wong Man-kwong. Drawing: 1st Ip Kam-tseung, 2 full attendance.

Class V.—General Proficiency—English: 1st Li Ping, and Sum Chiu-lai, 3rd Cheung Man-loi and To Tsun. Chinese: 1st Liu Shut-heung. Drawing: 1st Li Ping, 5 full attendance.

Class VI.—General Proficiency—English: 1st Lam Iu-shem, 2nd Wong Kwok-kun, 3rd Mok Yat-fong. Chinese: 1st Un Chiu-ying, and Cheung Hing-min. Drawing: Ling Man-lai, 12 full attendance.

Class VII.—General Proficiency—English: 1st Ho Kwong-shun, 2nd Lo Nam-pan, 3rd Cheung Chi-kau. Chinese: 1st Ho Pak-yam, Ho Kwong-shun. Drawing: 1st Chun Sai-lin, 13 full attendance.

Class VIII A.—General Proficiency—English: 1st Tsang Wing-wa, 2nd Fok Pak-wing, 3rd Chang Kwok-cheung. Chinese: 1st Leung Pui-chun.

Class VIII B.—English: 1st Wong Fai-kwong 2nd Ip Yum-ng, 3rd Ng Ying-tim. Chinese: 1st Cheung Chiu-hing, 10 full attendance.

The Inspector of Schools then read his report, dealing with the weak points of each school. He laid special stress on the fact that the behaviour of the boys outside school was not what it should be; that some boys had a habit of spending their school fees, and, being afraid to face the headmaster or their parents, they stop away for a month. This, he said, amounted practically to larceny and he hoped the gentle hint would be taken, and that some of the boys who wore European dress should adopt the manners and custom of Europeans. They should, when meeting their masters in the street, raise their hats, and when speaking to their superiors keep their hands out of their pockets and also not to fold them.

His Excellency said that during the last day or two he had presented the prizes to one or two large schools under the auspices of the Mission Society. To-day he was called to present the prizes to the scholars of the District Schools, and, naturally, being at the head of the Government in this Colony, he was interested in the doings of these schools, and had given a special prize. The reports of the headmasters and of the Inspector of Schools were, he thought, satisfactory. (Applause). The attendance at the schools had increased wonderfully—from 140 last year to 210 this year. The year before the last Sai-ying-poon School had 44 pupils; last year this number was more than doubled, while this year the number stood at 291. In 1906 there were 98 scholars at the Yau-ma-ti School. This figure was doubled last year. This year there were 185 names in the book. Including the Tang-loong-chow School the number of scholars attending the District Schools was 644. His Excellency then passed on to the conduct of the boys after school hours, telling them that they had some dignity to maintain. Speaking of the remarkable increase in the number of scholars in these schools, he stated that it was difficult for the Government to keep pace with them. Yau-ma-ti had a new school building, but it still needed further extensions and a play ground. Wanchai, as was also Sai-ying-poon, wanted extra accommodation, which was provided in this year's Estimates, and he thought this would be put in hand shortly and done in a thorough manner. The apparatus of the school had been largely increased during the year and from the reports he learnt that they were efficient and useful, and he was glad to see that the new desks were appreciated. Passing on, his Excellency said that the parents of a boy could give him no greater and important a present than an education. An entry to Queen's College meant three or four more years in school and a better education, which was better than a partnership in a business house, or a fortune in dollars. If a boy left school early he could only secure a second or third rate appointment; but the boy with a good education could obtain a good appointment in mercantile houses, in Government offices and in China. And the object of the District Schools was to train boys not only for the benefit of the Colony, but for China to which country their people belong. He concluded with the remark that there were many opportunities for an educated boy obtaining employment at the opening of this railway and other railways in China. He wished them all a pleasant holiday and a happy New Year.

The prizes were then presented. The Inspector of Schools proposed a vote of thanks to their Excellencies and the function terminated with the singing of the National Anthem.

WIRELESS AT WUCHOW.

ADMIRAL LI-CHUN'S INNOVATION.

FOREIGNERS BANQUETTED.

Wuchow, 15th January.

Admiral Li-Chun and his fleet left Wuchow this morning. During his stay here the Admiral made an inspection of the local troops and their accoutrements and gave a banquet last night to the leading officials. Amongst the foreigners who attended were Mr. H. King, H.M.'s Consul, Mr. Jules A. Van Aalst, Commissioner of Customs, and the Commanders of the gunboats *Robin* and *Moorken*. Admiral Li-Chun had with him a Mr. Larsen, specially engaged for the erection and installation of a wireless telegraphy station, in Wuchow. A party were out all day yesterday inspecting various sites for a suitable place and it is expected that the local Peak Hill will be chosen for the erection of the new wireless station. What with the ordering of four new 14-knot gunboats and wireless telegraphy, it is apparent that the Admiral is determined to be up-to-date and institute efficient patrol.

DISTINGUISHED VISITORS.

His Excellency the Governor of Macao and suite arrived here yesterday afternoon from Canton in the stern wheeler *Saimun* from Canton, and returned to Canton this morning. During his short stay here the Governor and his party visited the various places of local interest and some of the suite engaged themselves with enthusiastic "snap shots" of local scenery.

CAMERON HIGHLANDERS.

GENERAL WATERS' COMMUNIQUE TO THE TIENTSIN PRESS.

The following communiqué has been given to the Tientsin Press by the D. A. Q. M. G. for H. M. troops in North China:

"With reference to the changes among the British troops which were announced, to take place during the next few days a telegram has been received by General Waters to say that it is now uncertain whether the Cameron Highlanders will come to North China. A further announcement will be made as soon as anything definite is known."

MR. WILDER ON CHINA.

LECTURE AT THE "ODD VOLUMES" SOCIETY.

The Hon. Mr. H. E. Pollock, K.C., presided at a meeting of the Hongkong Odd Volumes Society, last Friday afternoon, when Mr. Wilder described the journey from Hankow to Canton, which, by the way of Kweilin, and the Fu River flowing into Wuchow, made a distance of about 1,000 miles. There were three Europeans in the party and three Chinese attendants, and on the overland part of the journey the party made a procession of about 40, with the coolie carriers. He described the walled cities, large and small, of which in Hunan and Kwangsi province each there may be 60 or 70. At Pingshan the party found a very large coal mine operated by eleven Germans for Chinese owners. Most of the journey was by houseboat, a very comfortable mode of travel. The party carried their own provisions supplementing it by chickens, rice, fruits, and occasionally vegetables. The natives were uniformally kind, and the officials called on the travellers and sent them escorts to all they wished to see. The exhibit of 2,000 soldiers at Changsha was most excellent as regards equipment and movements. On the drill ground were horizontal and parallel bars, where numbers performed exercises showing skill and strength. The country is universally mountainous south of the Yangtze, the pathways are made of flat stones or cobbles rough in places, and impossible for an automobile; but much better than the mud. The walking trip was marred by rains for some five days, and the discomfort of arriving and sleeping in Chinese inns, which the party did for 13 nights, was considerable. Ricestraw is much used for fuel though some districts have a small growth of trees and there are occasional deposits of coal. The people seem to be very poor in the country districts, but always cheerful. In the cities was more evidence of wealth. The natives have nothing to show in the way of mechanical devices beyond spinning wheels and crude water wheels. In one city there were two of these perhaps 40 feet high lifting water from a river into a tank. There were "ancient things shops" in the cities, but no "finds" in the way of rare pottery or curios. One city is noted for pewter, but inferior to the Swatow article. The villagers along the way were poor and unprogressive. The country roads are broken every mile or so by rest houses, through which the roads pass where carriers are sheltered from the rain and may purchase refreshments. Near Kweilin for a stretch of 100 miles is a curious cone formation, thousands of elevations from 100 to 600 feet high, of weather beaten rock, occasionally faced with some vegetation. These must be of great interest to geologists. One is rarely away from the sight of natives, but the country is so rough that there are large areas uncultivated. Withal the speaker made it clear that such a trip must be very informing as to the life of the rural population of China. A touch of the medieval was a procession of three closed sedan chairs under soldier escort, being rapidly carried by coolies, each chair being surmounted by the yellow (Imperial color) dragon flag. They bore tribute to Peking—perhaps choice specimens of pewter ware or lacquer or other local product, to decorate the home of some mandarin or even the Royal house. It is said that these chairs move day and night without stop save to take on fresh coolies, the guardians of the treasures sleeping while in transit. China's lack of uniformity of currency proved a great inconvenience. Each province has its own currency. There is no gold; and in these remote districts practically no paper money, save for the largest transactions. Each province is wary of money of other provinces and some is refused at any discount. It gratified the travellers that Hongkong coins were preferred over all others.

SCOPE FOR PHILANTHROPISTS AND MILLIONAIRES IN BANGKOK.

We cannot say exactly how many philanthropists and millionaires Bangkok can boast, but that there is sufficient scope for such to exercise their charity is a fact that is abundantly clear. There is much to be done in the way of raising up the lower strata of humanity, and providing means for its better education, especially the homeless and fatherless.

In all big cities of the world numbers of friendless waifs are to be found and Bangkok is no exception to the rule. In other cities, however, societies, or "Crusades of Rescue," are doing very serviceable work in finding homes and means of education for such destitute children. In every land the children are looked upon as the most valuable asset of a nation, and for Siam where the population is so sparse in many parts of the country, the work of rescuing and cherishing the homeless and outcast children should be of special importance.

It is much to be feared that infant mortality in Bangkok is much greater than it should be. We hear of bodies of infants being found in klongs, in the vicinity of old wats, and byeways, besides being thrown into the river, which is by no means of rare occurrence. It is only recently we heard of instances of mothers throwing the bodies of their new-born infants into the Menam even before they were quite dead. It may be that the unfortunate mothers had no means of support and, thus abandoned, were driven to dispose of their offspring in this way. With more homes for the destitute much could be done to mitigate the evil and preserve the lives of numbers of children that are cut off in so many ways at present. The country needs a well educated and growing population and in order to secure it the best means to the end must be taken.

It is not to every country great philanthropists and charitable millionaires are given to found many charitable institutions and contribute large donations for their support, but much could be done by supporting the charitable institutions that exist, more liberally, and give them better means of harbouring and educating the abandoned and homeless. Hundreds of thousands of lives are thus saved to the counties of Europe and America annually by this means. They are brought up and educated, and trained for independent, strong and self-reliant life. They become honest, industrious citizens, in the various avocations in life, instead of becoming a scourge to society in their abandoned state.

Here, therefore, is a means of "making merit" for all who have the means. The children of the wealthy must be brought up in the full recognition of their brotherhood with the poor, and the inalienable right of the poor to equality of opportunity.

On the broad basis of universal charity and humanity, co-operation with all whose efforts are directed to the common good is highly commendable, and the noble work of preventing infant mortality and rescuing the friendless waifs from the dangers that surround them, should find favour with all who have the welfare of the nation at heart.

It may not be generally known that the Siamese Government has already established two or three free homes of the nature above mentioned, which are doing very meritorious work, but there is plenty scope for more, and it remains for the rich and charitably disposed to found others.—*Siam Free Press*.

KULANGSU (AMOY) MUNICIPAL COUNCIL.

Minutes of a meeting of the Council held at the Board Room, on the 31st December, 1907.

Present:—Messrs. W. H. Wallace (chairman), C. A. V. Bowra, W. Kruse, W. Wilson, and the secretary.

The minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed.

The Estimates, as presented, for 1908 were passed.

The accounts for 1907 were read and passed.

The secretary was instructed to publish the usual notices regarding annual meeting, list of ratepayers, notice calling for names of gentlemen to serve on 1908 Council, and to forward a letter to the Senior Consul asking him to call the annual meeting of ratepayers for Tuesday, 21st January, 1908.

The secretary was instructed to publish an *Express* whenever permission has been given to commanders of ships-of-war to land parties for small arm practice.

The Superintendent of Police reported the following cases had been heard in the Mixed Court since the last meeting:—Summonses: Breach of Municipal regulations 2, Allowing pigs or cattle to stray 1, Illegally quarrying stone 1, Debt 2. Summary arrests: Theft 4, Committing a nuisance 1, Returning from deportation 1, Being in possession of stolen property 1.

(Signed), W. H. WALLACE,
Chairman.

By order,
C. BERKELEY MITCHELL,
Secretary.

KOREA IN 1907.

The year 1907 was one of the most eventful in the whole history of Korea. It witnessed the tragic culmination of a career of silly and incorrigible intrigue such as has seldom been the misfortune of a crowned ruler to pursue. Thanks to the incurable folly of the late occupant of the Korean throne, the country was on the very brink of utter destruction—a fate from which it was only saved by the inexhaustible patience and boundless sympathy of the distinguished statesman whom it has been its rare fortune to have as its supreme adviser and protector. To him and him alone it owes the national entity which it still claims as its own. Under any other Resident-General, Korea would have had a short shrift, and nobody could have contended with justice that Korea did not deserve such treatment. The chance, which Korea still has for proving its worth as an autonomous nation, must, therefore, be regarded as a gift and a favour bestowed upon it by an indulgent friend and overseer.

The year which has just closed, disastrous as it has apparently been, may possibly prove the means of Korea's salvation, if the bitter lesson it has taught be not wholly lost upon her. Korea's undoing in recent years, but more especially in 1907, is to be found in the fatal propensity which its advisers have shown of being guided, or rather misguided, by the pernicious suggestions of certain Occidental adventurers and busybodies, who, partly from motives of self-interest and partly as the result of their inability rightly to grasp the broad significance of contemporary history, have tried and are still trying to persuade the Koreans that they can accomplish the impossible task of turning back the tide of time. Were it not for the baneful influence of these interlopers, Korea might long ere this have settled down to the quiet and contented enjoyment of the benefits of a new and reformed administration.

Time and again we have warned the Koreans against their so-called friends who have never lost an opportunity of poisoning their minds against the nation with which fate has joined them by bonds that nothing short of a miracle can sunder. These men, we repeatedly pointed out, were the worst enemies of Korea. Our warning, we are afraid, fell upon ears which were resolved not to listen. The bitter experience of the past year ought, however, to have at last opened their eyes as to the real character of the friendship professed by the men in question. The latter, we are sorry to say, are still much in evidence, but we hope that, after the hard experience of the year just closed, their activity will be vain. At all events the Koreans have no excuse now for any failure to distinguish true from false friends. It is the earnest hope of all their true friends that they will profit by the dearly bought experience of 1907 and offer hearty support and co-operation to the work of regeneration which is beginning to take definite shape and which is destined to make them a prosperous and an enlightened people. —*Seoul Press*.

TSINGTAO.

DOMESTIC IMPROVEMENTS.

Writing on the 3rd inst. the Tsingtao correspondent of the *N. C. D. News* says:—The past year has seen many improvements in Tsingtao. Many new roads have been made, the most important of which is the one to the steamer landing. Those who have had to bump in carriages or rickshas over the clay road which has been used the past few months will much appreciate this new road.

Within certain districts laying of water in private houses has been made compulsory, and it is hoped in time, the unsightly hydrants where coolies flock for the daily water supply may be done away with.

The railway is doing an increasing business, but the prospects for this winter seem not so promising owing, no doubt, to the increasing distress in the west and north-western parts of the province. Prices for food are abnormally high, so the common people will not be likely to indulge in luxuries.

FINANCE AND THE POST OFFICE.

The ten-cash piece will not be accepted in some sections, and money matters generally are in a bad way. In Tsingtao, merchants complain that business is very slack. One reason, perhaps, is that prices are higher than in Shanghai, and another that the unfortunate postal arrangement which requires a minimum of four cents for every letter in or out of Tsingtao, prevents much mail order business. It would be a great relief if the German Post could make some arrangements so that local mail may be at the same rate as that of the C. I. P., which now has offices in all the important cities and centres of Shantung and has earned a splendid reputation for prompt and safe delivery of all mails entrusted to its care. It is not strange, therefore, that much mail order business goes right through Tsingtao on its way to Shanghai when postal rates are only about one-half and goods are generally less expensive.

THE GOVERNOR'S VISIT.

Governor Wu visited Tsingtao last week, and was met at the station with the usual honours. Two banquets were given, and he had some drives over these beautiful roads. At the Government school the children were assembled to sing for his Excellency, much to their delight.

This school, by-the-way, is worthy of the attention of the parents who desire a good education for their children and still to keep them within reasonable distance. The work done is most thorough and satisfactory. In the earlier classes, of course, all work is in German, but English, French and Latin are all taken up rather earlier than in American or English schools.

GOLD MINES.

We hear rumours of a promising find of gold in a neighbouring island and that a direct line of steamships is soon to be established between here and European ports.

FORTHCOMING RACES.

DERBY ENTRANTS.

Of the important events during the Jockey Club race meetings, the Valley Stakes and the Hongkong Derby usually attract the largest amount of interest. The entries for these two events are:—

THE VALLEY STAKES.—A sweepstakes of $10 each with $300 added. Winner to receive 70 per cent; second 20 per cent; and third to per cent. For China ponies, subscription griffins of this season 1907-1908. Weight for inches as per scale. Three quarters of a mile.

Mr. J. Armstrong's Skirbeck
Mr. Brutton's Sparkford
Mr. Buxey's Sofrano Rose
Do. Black Prince Rose
Mr. Charles' So So
Mr. C. Paul Chater's Hayden
Mr. Christiani's Drueckeberger
Mr. W. G. Clarke's Lowlander
Mr. Dryasdust's Pilgrim
Do. Seringapatam
Mr. Andrew Forbes' Desmond
Mr. T. S. Forrest's Renfrew
Messrs. R. & H. Hancock's Chanticleer
Messrs. H. M. B. & B.'s Redavai
Messrs. T. F. Hough & R. Shewan's Lochleven
Mr. Hursthams's Repentance
Mr. Ellis Kadoorie's Maori Chief
Mr. Keecheong's Faiti
Mr. Lansel's Fleetfoot
Do. Dalliance
Mr. Leith's Diamant
Mr. Loland's Sunlight
Mr. D. Macdonald's Highland Waif
Mr. F. B. Marshall's Chestnut Tree
Do. Gum Tree
Hon. Mr. F. H. May and Mr. M. W. Slade's Tumen
Mr. M'Donnell's Pat
Mr. Medico's Wensley
Mr. Alex. Moir's Strathmohr
Mr. G. C. Moxon's Vexation
Mr. John Peel's Kirkpatrick
Do. Kirkmichael
Mr. Rodcar's Finesse
Do. Chicane
Mr. Smith's Quicksilver
Do. Gold Leaf
Mr. Wayfoong's Unusual
Mr. Willgriff's Butterpunch.

THE HONGKONG DERBY.—A sweepstakes of $20 each, with $1,500 added. (Half forfeit if declared on or before day of closing entries.) For China ponies, *bona fide* griffins on date of entry. First pony to receive 70 per cent.; second 20 per cent.; and third 10 per cent. Weight for inches as per scale. One mile and a half. (Nominations to close to the Clerk of the Course at the Hongkong Club House on Saturday, 28th December, 1907.)

Mr. Brutton's Trent
Do. Silverlake
Mr. Buxey's Rainbow Rose
Do. Jubilee Rose
Do. Sofrano Rose
Mr. Dryasdust's Grey Tick
Do. Freethinker
Messrs. T. F. Hough & R. Shewan's Sidier Dhu
Do. Sidier Roy
Mr. Ellis Kadoorie's Cherokee Chief
Do. Baluchi Chief
Do. Mohawk Chief
Mr. F. B. Marshall's Rubber Tree
Do. Palm Tree
Do. Nutmeg Tree
Do. Camphor Tree
Mr. Alex. Moir's Strathnairn
Major Parker's Panjabi
Mr. John Peel's Kirkdale
Do. Kirkwood
Do. Kirkgunzeon
Do. Kirkmahoe
Mr. Willgriff's Butterpunch

THE CHALLENGE CUP.—Value one hundred guineas. For China ponies. A forced entry of $10 each, but optional to China ponies subscription griffins of this or previous seasons. Weight for inches as per scale. To be won two years consecutively by a pony or ponies the *bona fide* property of the same owner or owners. Winner to receive $300 and 70 per cent., second $100 and 20 per cent., and third $50 and 10 per cent. of the entrance fees until the Cup is finally won, when the second pony will receive 75 per cent., and third pony 25 per cent. of the entrance fees. One mile and three quarters.

Mr. Brutton's Kingston
Do. Preston
Do. Septima
Do. Trent
Mr. Buxey's Glorious Rose
Do. Lancaster Rose (late Rustic)
Do. Spring Rose
Do. York Rose (late Ruric)
Do. Mira
Do. Banksia Rose
Do. Rainbow Rose
Do. Jubilee Rose
Mr. W. G. Clarke's Haybag
Mr. Dryasdust's Coxcomb
Do. Freethinker
Do. Cobbler
Mr. T. S. Forrest's Forfar
Do. Nairn
Messrs. T. F. Hough & R. Shewan's Corrie
Do. Sidier Dhu
Do. Sidier Roy
Mr. Ellis Kadoorie's Cherokee Chief
Do. Baluchi Chief
Do. Mohawk Chief
Do. Manchurian Chief
Do. Brigand Chief
Mr. Kennick's Mischief
Mr. Loland's Starlight
Mr. F. B. Marshall's Mystic
Do. Pine Tree (late Earthquake)
Do. Rubber Tree
Do. Palm Tree
Do. Nutmeg Tree
Do. Camphor Tree
Mr. Godfrey Master's Astral (late Astrol)
Do. Blue Nile
Do. Drayos (late Autumn Rose)
Mr. Alex. Moir's Strathnairn
Mr. Moregold's Mainstay
Do. Wildman (late Highlandman)
Major Parker's Panjabi
Mr. John Peel's Ardpatrick
Do. Quorn
Do. Eglinton
Do. Kirkdale
Do. Kirkwood
Do. Kirkgunzeon
Do. Kirkmahoe
Do. Kirkcudbright
Mr. Rolando's Beaufort
Mr. Sherlock's Ben Klon
Uncle Sam's Patrick's Pride

S. S. "MALTE."

NEW CHARGEURS REUNIS STEAMER.

ARRIVAL AT HONGKONG.

30th inst.

At the invitation of Capt. L. Bernard, commander of the new steamer *Malte*, a party of visitors was accorded a cordial reception on board to-day. The *Malte* arrived at Hongkong on her maiden trip yesterday and berthed at the wharf of the Hongkong and Kowloon Wharf and Godown Co. on the other side of the harbour. She fulfils all the requirements of a first-class passenger steamer and freight-carrier combined, and in the matter of her cabin accommodation will be found to provide the maximum of comfort in her single and double berthed cabins for those who may be fortunate enough in being able to secure passage by the excellent steamers of the Chargeurs Réunis for a trip round the world. The t.s.s. *Malte*, built to the order of La Compagnie des Chargeurs Réunis, of Paris and Havre, by Swan, Hunter and Wigham Richardson, Limited, Wallsend-on-Tyne, left the Tyne on the 2nd Sept. to carry out the necessary trials, extending over two days. The vessel's dimensions are: 481ft., by 55ft. 8in., by 36ft. 11in. The engines were constructed by the Wallsend Slipway and Engineering Company, Limited, and consist of a set of twin-screw triple-expansion engines, having cylinders 25½in., 43in. and 70in., stroke, steam being supplied by six large single-ended boilers working at 200lbs. pressure, and fitted with Howden's forced draught. The vessel has been designed for a deadweight cargo capacity of about 9,000 tons, and is fitted with accommodation for about 45 first-class passengers. She can also carry a large number of emigrants if required. The contract conditions as regards speed were somewhat severe, the vessel having to run for a four hours' full power trial and subsequently a 24 hours' consumption trial. During the former the mean i.h.p. developed considerably exceeded the guaranteed power. The 24 hours' trial was equally successful, the vessel attaining a mean speed during that period of over 14¼ knots, the guaranteed speed being 13¾ knots.

This vessel is the first of three which the same builders are constructing for the Chargeurs Réunis, and they will be entered, as stated, in the All-round-the-world service, inaugurated by this Company in 1905 which service commences at Antwerp and Dunkirk and proceeds *via* Suez to Singapore, Hongkong, Shanghai and other Eastern ports and thence *via* the Pacific to various ports on the West and East Coast of South America and subsequently to the United Kingdom, France, and Antwerp.

The *Malte* is scheduled to leave for Shanghai on the 21st inst., at 4 p.m. whence she proceeds to Ching-wan-tao (Tientsin and Peking), Kobe, Yokohama, Honolulu, San Francisco, Puget Sound, Mexican Coast, Punta Arenas, Monte video and Buenos Ayres (without transhipment).

The owners of the steamer are represented in Hongkong by the Messageries Maritimes, of which Mons. J. Millet is the agent.

SWATOW.

TAXATION WITHOUT METHOD.

January 2,

The native merchants of Swatow are losing a splendid chance of getting the administration of local affairs into their own hands. As I noted in a former communication, the whole town is to be taxed for the support of the new police force. One-tenth of the rental is to be the assessment for this purpose, and one wonders where money is to be drawn from when local needs suggest new levies, if this one is to be so heavy. One-half of the assessment is to be paid by the landlord, and the other half by the tenant; but, as always, that will result in a rise of rents and the payment by the occupier of the whole sum. Street cleaning and lighting are other matters that must be dealt with later on: for what is done now, though a marked improvement on the filth and gloom of former times, is but a tithe of what is possible. The merchants have started a Bureau of Inquiry with regard to the details and methods of local government, and a course of instruction on the lines of the Tientsin Bureau is mapped out. This is no doubt very informing, and will bear fruit later on, but for the present the rapacious mandarins are gathering in the dollars and paying themselves for their trouble at a generous rate. What is needed is an application to headquarters for permission to organize local administration, but mutual jealousy among the merchants stands in the way of this.

WEAPON SMUGGLING.

The authorities are very much alive at present to the need for vigilance with regard to the smuggling of arms. It has long been apparent that measures of prevention taken at Swatow are of little avail, as every harbour and bay on the coast is used by the smugglers. Now, however, the mandarins have the matter in hand, and a thorough supervision of the coastline of the Chao and Hui prefectures is arranged for. The armed bands which infest the country are too often provided with weapons superior to those in the hands of the soldiers sent to suppress them. I witnessed the embarkation of a battery of eight-pounder guns the other day. It was a refreshing touch of the old China. The guns were carefully hooded, but badly kept; and the shells, exposed in ant-eaten cases, were covered with rust. These were the weapons drafted off to Kwangsi to help in suppressing the rebellion!—*N. C. D. News.*

A JAPANESE SUGAR MONOPOLY.

MORE RUMOURS.

The *Japan Chronicle* says:—It seems that in spite of the miserable failure of the salt monopoly the opinion in favour of the Government monopolisation of the sugar business, in preference to an increase of the tax on sugar, is gaining ground among the political parties. Those engaged in the sugar business are said also to prefer this course, and have already begun to use their influence over the members of the Diet towards the success of the monopolisation scheme. It is surprising to learn that the members of the Diet believe that a sugar monopoly will be a good cry in the coming general election, it being supposed that the proposal will receive popular favour because it is offered as a substitute for a tax—though, as the creation of the other monopolies has proved, the taxation becomes even heavier when monopolisation takes place. It is believed that the opinion in favour of the sugar monopoly will receive more support in the Diet than might have been anticipated, and if the sugar refining people believe that they will be bought out at a good figure it is feared that some corruption may occur.

RETURN of visitors to the City Hall Library and Museum for the week ending the 19th January, 1908:—

	Library.	Museum.
Non-Chinese	399	151
Chinese	168	2,808
Total	567	2959

ELLIS KADOORIES SCHOOL.

ANNUAL PRIZE DISTRIBUTION.

The annual prize distribution of Ellis Kadoorie's School took place last Monday forenoon. Punctually at the appointed time—half-past eleven o'clock—his Excellency Sir Frederick and Lady Lugard, accompanied by Mr. A. J. Brackenbury, private secretary, arrived, and were received by Mr. Ellis Kadoorie, the President, Mr. W. D. Braidwood, the headmaster, Mr. Ho Kom Tong and Mr. Lau Chu Pak, who showed them to the nicely decorated hall, which by this time was well filled with visitors. Among others present were: Archdeacon Banister, Mr. and Mrs. E. S. Kadoorie, Rev. and Mrs. Pearce, Rev. and Mrs. Bickling, Mr. G. Piercy, Mrs. Braidwood, Messrs. R. C. Barlow, D. M. Nicolson, A. Hamilton, Mr. and Miss Rodger, Capt. McGinty, Mr. and Mrs. Raymond, Mr. E. J. Moses, Mrs. Bryson, Mrs. McCubbin, Mrs. Milroy, Mrs. Walker, Mrs. Stevenson, Mr. and Mrs. Sheffield, Mrs. Halton, Mrs. Hale, Mrs. Hodgins, Mr. Chau Shiu-ki, Mr. and Mrs. Young Hee, Messrs. J. Moore, A. McKenzie, J. L. McPherson, Puo Yan Chuen, Tsang Yuet Kai, Ip Sedhg Wan, Choi Tsze Yick, etc.

"WELCOME."

Mr. Braidwood opened the proceedings by welcoming their Excellencies on behalf of the Council of the School, the scholars and the masters, on their first visit to the school. (Applause).

THE HEADMASTER'S REPORT.

Then he read the school's report, as follows:—Your Excellency, Mr. President, Ladies and Gentlemen,—It is with much pleasure that I present to you the seventh annual report of the Society's Hongkong College, recording as it does an extraordinary increase in point of numbers over the attendance of any previous year. For the purposes of the Government Grant-in-Aid scheme, the College year closes on the last day of June. Mr. E. D. C. Wolfe, in the absence of Mr. E. A. Irving, conducted the annual examination on behalf of the Government and on the 26th July reported as follows:—

Staff:—Mr. Braidwood, 3 English assistant masters, and 11 Chinese masters.

Discipline and organization, good on the whole. The school now numbers over 500 boys. The roll is called in a very short time considering the number of boys. Discipline is well maintained by the English masters, but the same does not appear to be the case with the Chinese masters. On one occasion while I was examining boys on the first floor of the new building a great deal of noise was going on on the 2nd floor where Chinese masters were teaching. Discipline and obedience to orders should be strictly enforced by all in authority.

Sanitation:—Very satisfactory.

Floor space:—Sufficient for 1,076 pupils.

Apparatus:—Very satisfactory.

English Colloquial:—Fair, except in Class IV where it was distinctly poor.

Reading:—Good throughout the school.

Composition:—Fair. The style is faulty, especially so in letter writing. The junior boys appeared to take much more interest in this branch of their work than the seniors. In Class I and II it was very difficult to get an answer even to the simplest question.

Grammar:—There was a great lack of uniformity in the analysis of sentences. Many mistakes were due to carelessness, and it was obvious the questions had not been studied properly before the answers were given. In this subject as in others the answers were very similar and appeared to have been learnt by heart.

Geography:—Good, except in Class VII. Class I was distinctly good; Class II did well except in map-drawing. The map of the course of the Yang Tse Kiang indicating the important towns on its banks were failures in most cases.

History:—Good on the whole. The subject chosen was extremely difficult, *i.e.*, the history of the ancient Egyptians, Chaldeans and Assyrians, and had been learnt by heart. I very much doubt if the subject was well understood. A knowledge of the history of China or of the nations with whom China has dealings would appear to me a more profitable subject of study, and one which would be very much easier to acquire.

Mathematics: Arithmetic:—Weak in Classes I and II and good throughout the rest of the school.

Algebra:—Fair.

Euclid:—Fair in Classes I and II and good in III. The figures were in many cases very badly drawn and in this as well as in other subjects there was an absence of neatness and method.

Mensuration:—Very good. This subject is only studied in Class I.

Science:—Good. The text book is rather old-fashioned and should be changed. In Classes II and III the answers to the questions appear to have been learnt by heart. As in the grammar and history papers, when one paper has been read through the contents of all the remaining papers are known. The teaching of this subject should be of a more practical nature and boys should be discouraged from using the exact words of the text book. To quote some instances of the similarity of papers the word "capacity" appears in almost all cases as "capicity," and "fis" as "fires." Sentences begin in the words of the book, "An astonishing fact may here be mentioned." These have obviously been learnt by heart.

Chinese:—There are twelve Chinese classes in all. The reading in half of them was good as was the explanation of the text; in the remainder fair only. The composition also varied from very good in the upper classes to fair in the lower ones.

Chinese translation:—Very fair on the whole, but the boys use sentences and expressions which are so alike that it is very difficult to believe that they have not copied from each other's papers. Such expressions as "fallen into bankruptcy" occur in nearly every paper. In one piece of translation every boy left out the final sentence, "Herewith a copy of the account for goods supplied." The English was in some cases very bad. Greater care must also be taken to translate the full text and not to omit sentences or parts of sentences.

Hygiene:—Good in the advanced course. Poor in the elementary course.

General:—The new wing was opened about one year ago, but even with this additional accommodation the congestion in the old building is still great. Some of the classes are too big for one master to supervise properly. The boys throughout the school should be encouraged to speak louder and more distinctly, as at present their answers are often quite inaudible, especially if they happen to be seated at the back of one of the large class rooms.

Grant:—I recommend a grant at the rate of 30/- and consider that very satisfactory progress has been made during the past twelve months.

Proceeding, Mr. Braidwood said:—In the report just read there are, one or two points that call for remark. The subjects embodied in our curriculum are submitted to and approved by the Inspector of Schools. The portion of history selected for the period under review is part of a scheme arranged by a committee appointed by Government for the purpose. The details of this scheme are to be found in a Blue Book issued by the Education Department in 1904. In translation from Chinese to English the frequent recurrence of the expression "fallen into bankruptcy" is explained by the fact that the Chinese class master had so translated the characters on previous occasions. In Class II the sentence referred to because it was not contained in the body of the letter. Mensuration is taught in Classes I and II and papers on this subject were set to both classes at the examination. The faculty which Chinese youths possess of memorising facts and phrases accounts in many instances for similarity in the wording of answers. The science lessons are illustrated by practical experiments in which the pupils take part and ample apparatus is provided and used for this purpose. The Headmaster was absent on leave from 4th May to 4th November. The Anglo-Chinese staff was increased by the engagement of Mr. Yeung Kong, who joined on 6th May. To keep pace with our steadily increasing numbers the Council has sent to England for two additional trained teachers, who are expected to arrive after the Chinese New Year holidays. The greatest number on the register during the year was 571 and the maximum number present was 528. The average daily attendance was 392 compared with 319 for the previous year, and for the six months ending 31st December, 1907 it has been 467. Classes were held on 221 days and 158 boys were present on every occasion while 125 made 200 or more attendances. This is a great improvement on last year when the numbers were 82 and 61 respectively. This subject has been taught regularly throughout the year and the lessons have been wherever possible accompanied by experiments in which the students evince the greatest interest. In the last competition held in the senior division on of our pupils, Lau Iu Chung, was bracketed with a student from another college for first place, while in the team examination held in December last our students occupied fourth place.

Classes for physical exercise which every student, unless physically unfit, is expected to attend, have been held regularly twice a week and under the able and energetic tuition of Sergeant Liddard, of the 3rd Middlesex Regiment, the students are reaping the benefits of a regular system of physical culture. The College football club, thanks to the exertions of Messrs. Barlow and Hamilton, continues to attract an increasing number of players and it is due to the assiduous coaching of the former that the College team heads the list of Chinese schools competing in the League matches. In summer when football could not be played a bathing and swimming club was inaugurated and over 100 boys gladly availed themselves of the opportunity for such pleasant recreation. The benefits derived by pupils from association with the masters in the recreation field cannot be over-estimated.

The library which was formed three years ago is still well patronized by the boys, more particularly by the students of the upper forms, who will be pleased to hear that there is a probability of a number of new books being added to the collection at an early date. As in former years the examination on the results of which the scholarship and prizes are awarded was held as late as possible in the fourth session. Into the great mass of figures connected therewith I do not propose to enter, as for the information of the Council the examination schedules are appended. Briefly stated the results were as follows:—449 pupils were present at examination, of these 29 failed to gain 50 % of the possible number of marks and 420 passed=93.5 %. In the individual subjects the percentage of passes was:—

Reading, 97; Arithmetic, 81; English composition, 72; English colloquial, 98.5; Geography, 89.5; Grammar, 87; Dictation, 64; Writing, 94; History, 82; Translation, E. to C., 79; Translation, C. to E., 90; Euclid, 83.8; Algebra, 90; Elementary science, 91; Hygiene, 85.9.

The outstanding features of the examination were (a) the signal failure of the two highest forms in the piece of unseen dictation, (b) the almost total collapse of Class IV in the grammar paper, and (c) the remarkably good results throughout in English colloquial. The last mentioned is particularly gratifying as it realizes to a great extent our principal ideal which is to produce English-speaking students. To the directors of the Tung Wah Hospital, the Committee of the Po Leung Kuk, Messrs. Kelly and Walsh, and the large number of Chinese gentlemen who have so liberally contributed to our scholarship and prize fund we offer our hearty thanks. (Applause).

THE GOVERNOR'S ADDRESS.

His Excellency said that the day before yesterday—on Saturday—he was called to distribute the prizes at the District Schools and in the course of his remarks he spoke of the rapid growth in numbers at those schools. But the growth of Ellis Kadoorie's School was more rapid than any in the Colony. It was established only seven years ago, and in 1903 and 1904 the average attendance was 95; last year it had increased to 319 and this year to 392. That was to say that within three years the school had more than doubled its number, and he hoped that the average may be maintained. The maximum attendance was 564—a position second to that of Queen's College. In the report of the Inspector of Schools he stated that the floor space was congested and he thought that those who had the interest of the school at heart would attend to the deficiency. He was glad to hear that the staff of European masters would soon be increased by the addition of two English masters who were expected after the Chinese New Year holidays. The report of the Inspector of Schools, was, he thought, very satisfactory. Last year, in the words of the Inspector, the work done by this school was "unusually good," and he was pleased to hear that that standard was maintained this year, and that they had come out well in hygiene, a subject which, the Inspector of Schools said, they took great interest. His predecessor, he said, took a great interest in this subject, and his interest was not less. Hygiene, he pursued, should obtain the hearty and cordial co-operation of all in an effort to carry out the sanitation of this Colony, and he thought that if there was an interest taken in hygiene the large schemes which the Government was introducing would be the best precaution for ourselves. . . . It was his predecessor's custom to lecture on some subject of interest—on the weakness of each particular school, and at one time it was geography. His Excellency did not propose to give such an address to-day, but he would confine himself to one point. He wanted the scholars to realize that Ellis Kadoorie's School was the second largest school in the Colony. That position was similar to a public school, and he wanted the boys to realize the meaning of "public school." Boys in England have a phrase: "Public School Form." This meant that they had the standard and dignity of the school to uplift and each boy thought it had to be maintained. If they cheated, appeared slovenly in dress, or copy each others' papers they must own up to it and take the consequences. The boys were keen for the honour of the school, both in class work or in sports. He agreed in the matter cordially that the association of masters on the field with the boys was valuable for at that time the masters had the opportunity of teaching the scholars what "public school form" meant, and he hoped that Ellis Kadoorie's School would not be behind in maintaining sound "public school form." He wished the boys a happy New Year and success for the coming year.

Mr. Lau Chu Pak translated in Chinese to the boys his Excellency's remarks about public school form, which was met with loud applause.

Here followed recitations by the scholars, at the conclusion of which his Excellency presented the prizes.

THE PRIZE LIST.

Blake Scholarship ($50), Leung Im.

Ho Kom Tong Scholarship (Senior) ($35), Tso Ping Lam.

Ho Kom Tong Scholarship (Junior) ($25), Kwok Shiu Chung.

College Scholarships.—Class I, 1st Sui Kuk, 2nd Lam Kwok, To.

Class II, 1st Mak Wai Hon, 2nd Puo Choi Chi.

Class III, 1st Wong Wai Hong, 2nd Chung Hang Yuk.

Class IV, 1st Kwok Shiu Yau, 2nd Tso Iu Wan.

Class V, 1st Lau Ping Kwan, 2nd Chan Sik Tsoi.

Class VI, 1st Ko Fuk Iu, 2nd Wai Kwong.

Class VII, 1st Iu Yam Tsun, 2nd Fung Wai Ming.

Class VIII, 1st Pun Wai Kwon, 2nd Li Iu Cheong.

Class IX, 1st Sze To Yuen, 2nd Cheung Fook.

Class IXa, 1st Leung Chak Hung.

Class IXc, 1st Yau Shui Loi,

Chinese Department.—Class I, 1st Ho Shau Hong, 2nd Cheng Chak Hing.

Class II, 1st Lo Cheung Iu, 2nd Wai Kwong.

Class III, 1st Ng Ting Sam, 2nd Li Iu Cheung.

Class IV, 1st Fang Iu Pong, 2nd Pun Wai Kwon.

Class V, 1st Tsang Hing Wo, 2nd Leung Shun Cheung.

Class VI, 1st Cheung Chan Kam, 2nd Ng Kwok Hi.

Special Prizes.—Dux Boy:—Leung Im (watch), Hygiene:—Tso Ping Lam (Cl. II) (book case), Colloquial:—Tam Pui Chun (book), Football:—Kwok Shui Yan (football). Attendance:—Sui Kuk, Class I, (book), Lam Kwok To, Mak Wai Hon, Chung Hang Yuk, Kwok Shui Cheung, Kwok Shui Yan, Chan Sik Tsoi, Tang Wai Ming, Pun Wai Kwon.

Recitation.—Class I, Leung Im, silver chain, Class III, Wong Wai Hong, silver chain, Class IV, Lau Hon Cheung, book, Class V, Lau Ping Kwan, book, Class VI, Tsang Shun Un, book, Class VII, Fung Wai Ming book Class VIII, Chan Lau Shan, book, Chau Kwok Shing, book Tsan Chui Ching, book, Sham Cheong Hung, book, Class IX, Tong Yam Iu.

Mr. Braidwood again thanked his Excellency and her Ladyship for their attendance, and stated that the good advice he had just given would be taken to heart.

The proceedings terminated by the calling for three cheers for their Excellencies.

WEST POINT POISONING CASE.

DEATH SENTENCE PASSED.

The trial of Lum Kui, *alias* Mo Ho, for the murder of her husband—Cheung Foo—at West Point, on the 17th November last, was opened at the Criminal Sessions last Monday, before his Honour Sir Francis Piggott (Chief Justice).

Mr. W. Rees Davies (Attorney-General), instructed by Mr. G. E. Morrell, of Messrs. Dennys and Bowley's office, appeared for the Crown. Mr. H. G. Calthrop (instructed by Mr. P. W. Goldring, of Messrs. Goldring and Barlow) was for the defence.

The following was the jury empanelled:—Messrs. J. G. W. Hullmann (foreman), A. Ritchie, Oscar Meyer, M. A. A. Souza, H. Hyddman, jnr., R. A. Judah and H. Watson.

Outlining the particulars of the case, the Attorney-General said that the prisoner stood charged with the crime of murder. The deceased was a married man, but he had been living with the prisoner, who had been separated from his wife during that time. The prisoner had a paramour named Ng Nin, and deceased objected to the relationship between them. Two days before the murder—on the 15th November—deceased and his nephew returned home at one o'clock in the afternoon—earlier than usual—and in entering the house they met Ng Nin coming down the stairs. When Ng Nin saw the pair he ran away. When deceased got upstairs he struck prisoner with an umbrella. All these facts, the Attorney-General said, would be told to the jury by the nephew. On the 17th November—the day of the murder—the nephew would swear to going to the deceased's house and finding him rolling on his bed in agony. The nephew picked him up when he rolled to the floor, and in the presence of the prisoner asked him what was the matter. Deceased, who could not speak, pointed to the prisoner, then to a small bowl on a table and then to his mouth. Prisoner then tried to leave the house with a box belonging to the deceased, but the nephew stopped her. He questioned her about deceased's condition, but she would not answer. Then he went across the road to call deceased's wife and son, and, returning he again stopped the prisoner from leaving the premises with deceased's box, which contained $30 in cash. By this time deceased had died. The small bowl on the table had disappeared on his return, but it was found the next day hidden under some wood. On the arrival of the police prisoner was found to be very ill. She was removed to the hospital in a semi-conscious state. When she was examined she was found to be suffering from vegetable poisoning—probably gelsemium. The daughter of the prisoner when called would say she saw prisoner put the stuff in a pot, boiled it and then administered it to the deceased. Afterwards she saw her remove the leaves from the pot and hid them away. When the stomach of deceased was tested one-sixth grain of gelsemium was found therein. This was an active poison and one-sixth of a grain was enough to cause death. Prisoner stated that the poison was given to her by a friend, who, with Ng Nin, advised her to give it to deceased. She said she did not know it was poison, but the Attorney-General thought it curious that she should have taken it herself after she had been stopped from leaving the house after her husband's death. He informed the jury that if they did not find prisoner guilty of murder she was not guilty of any other offence under the law.

Evidence was called.

The jury brought in a verdict of guilty and sentence of death was passed.

FIRE.

A fire, which did about $500 worth of damage, broke out shortly after seven o'clock last Sunday morning in one of the offices on the second floor of B. block, Victoria Barracks. The fire brigade, under charge of Deputy Superintendent Wodehouse, attended promptly, and with the assistance of a number of soldiers, soon had the flames extinguished. The origin of the outbreak is not known.

THE THREATENED BOYCOTT AT SHANGHAI.

The *N. C. D. News* of 13th inst. says:—As was stated in our issue of Saturday, a coolie had been discovered circulating leaflets in the Settlement which advocated the boycott of the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank and a foreign firm after the Chinese New Year, unless the Chêkiang Railway loan proposal had in the meantime been withdrawn. The leaflets in question emanated from the Sing Yi Savings Bank and were to the following effect:—

"As the draft agreement made with the British Corporation for the construction of the Kiangsu-Chêkiang Railway has not been cancelled, a matter really affecting in a great measure the rights and privileges of the people of our country, this Bank has now formulated a most substantial plan of opposition, which we respectfully present for the information of our brethren as follows:—If by the end of the Chinese 12th moon (January) this draft agreement be not cancelled this Bank will, without fail, issue in the 1st moon of next year an express, calling upon the people of all the Treaty ports to stop using the Banknotes of the Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation. . . . We must stand firm and not give way a single step. We think our brethren will agree with our aims and pray that preparations for putting this plan into effect be quickly made."

Yin, Manager of the Sing Yi Bank, who accepted responsibility for this document, that had been printed in a registered printing shop in Hongkew, was, accordingly, arrested by the Police on Saturday and will come before the Mixed Court this morning. Several thousand copies of the leaflet were found at his house. It is believed that Yin, who was at one time a censor, can claim superior rank to Mr. Pao, the Mixed Court Magistrate, and in this case he will be tried by the Shanghai Taotai, His Honour M. T. Liang.

In connection with the same matter, it is reported that orders have been received by the Taotai from Peking to effect the arrest of four prominent Chinese residents in the Settlement, who are held either to have countenanced the agitation against the Railway loan or to have failed to prevent it from being started in Shanghai. Two of these men are connected with the Chinese Chamber of Commerce, and one of them was conspicuous in inaugurating the American Boycott.

Yesterday morning the following advertisement appeared in the principal Chinese papers in the Settlement:—

"A most important notice issued by the Shanghai (Chinese) General Chamber of Commerce for the information of all:—

We have received at this moment a secret dispatch from Provincial Judge Jui stating that he has heard that in order to oppose the Railway Loan the Sing Yi Savings Bank has printed and disseminated an Express to the effect that commencing with next year (February, 1908) notes issued by the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank are not to be used and that business with another foreign bank shall also be stopped. As it is feared that such action may create trouble and complications, this Chamber is asked to lose no time in ordering the Bank in question to stop doing so. This Chamber has also heard of this matter. Now, with regard to the Railway question, representatives (of the two provinces concerned) are already in Peking consulting with the Waiwupu as to the best way of doing things. Indeed the gentry and people of Shanghai are even now looking to British merchants to act in an intelligent and just manner and not to coerce the people of Kiangsu and Chêkiang into borrowing money. Such being the case, how can we Chinese Merchants act, on the other hand, in an unintelligent manner, and so endanger the safety and well being of trade? For this reason the Chamber hastens to inform the members of the various trades and professions at once to destroy and burn the Expresses issued by the said (Sing Yi Savings) Bank that may have been received by them. On the other hand this Chamber has already discovered the truth of the subject of Provincial Judge Jui's dispatch and had sent a warning to the Savings Bank in question to lose no time in destroying any Expresses in its hands that have not yet been disseminated.

A special Notice to all concerned which it is to be trusted will be borne in mind by every one."

In view of this repudiation by the Chinese Chamber of Commerce and the salutary steps taken by the Municipal Police, it is to be hoped, as much in the interests of the Chinese themselves as of others, that the Settlement will have heard the last of the proposed boycott as soon as Yin's case has been settled. In the absence of more explicit evidence against them, there would seem to be little to gain from further action against the men arrested under orders from Peking.

The Central Government will have asserted its authority and its prompt action should, certainly, be a warning to others.

With the issue of the Taotai's Proclamation, printed below, there is little chance of the suggested boycott of British trade being carried beyond the leaflet stage. The directness of speech and firmness shown in the Proclamation are in striking contrast with the somewhat equivocal notice issued on Sunday by the Chinese Chamber of Commerce, and we welcome the prompt action thus taken by his Honour M. T. Liang to cope with a movement that in the end would have proved as prejudicial to Chinese as to foreigners. It would be idle, to ignore the possibilities of the anti-loan campaign, which under official auspices (i.e. at the provincial centres) might lead to serious complications; but in view of the attitude of the Peking Government and of the fact that it is to the interest of the commercial element in these provinces to have good relations between the foreign and Chinese sections maintained, we may hope that the worst is over.

THE CHINESE PRESS.

Perhaps the most promising sign of a new leaf being turned in the history of this unfortunate incident, is the decision that the local Chinese Press is reported to have arrived at, not to publish anything further that is calculated to rouse the feeling of the populace. Of late the cartoons in the Chinese papers have been characterized by considerable virulence and have, probably, created far more anti-foreign sentiment than Yin's abortive pamphlet. Much ground will have to be made up, if the editors propose to try to counteract the evil already done; but the decision arrived at on Sunday evening cannot fail to have some effect.

THE ADDITIONAL WARRANTS.

As stated in our issue of yesterday, orders for the arrest of four prominent Chinese residents have been received from Peking, and the necessary warrants have been issued by the Shanghai Taotai. One of the offenders, the hero of the American Boycott, is in the native city and pleads illness. It is not known whether the arrests will be effected, as it is the wish of all the foreigners concerned that the incident should now be allowed to pass without further notice. An attempt has been made to promote a strike among the Chinese shops in the Settlement as a protest against the arrest of Yin, but the movement is said to have been laughed out of court.

THE PROCEEDINGS IN COURT.

Jang Sen-yung (*alias* Yin) appeared in custody in the Mixed Court yesterday morning before Mr. Pao (Assistant Magistrate) and Mr. S. Barton (British Assessor), charged with having caused to be printed and circulated in the Settlement a circular the contents of which are of such a nature as to be an incitement to disorder and a menace to the peace and good order of the Settlement.

Mr. Springfield appeared for the police.

Mr. T. Morgan Phillips, Counsel for defendant, said that an arrangement had been made to hand the accused over to the Taotai for trial, and it appeared to Counsel that that was the best arrangement that could be made in the interests of all parties. It was admitted that the defendant caused the leaflets to be published.

Mr. Springfield said that he had instructions to point out that these leaflets might have caused serious trouble—

At this point the Assessor said that the Court knew all the circumstances of the case, and the Court did not wish to hear any evidence, because the accused had admitted the truth of the charge.

Mr. Springfield said that he desired to point out that the office that printed these leaflets was the one that printed seditious literature in 1905.

The Court desired further information concerning the printing office and Inspector Chilver said that the owner of the shop was employed at the Presbyterian Mission Press and only came occasionally to the shop, which was situated at No. 652 Pardon Road. The proprietor's name was Hung Si-kung and the shop was known as Hung Yung-chee. Hung, when spoken to about the leaflets, said that he had received an order from the bank to print 20,000. That number was printed and delivered at the bank. Hung had not come to the Court, but he promised to do so.

The Court ordered that the accused should be handed over to the Taotai to be dealt with.

Mr. Springfield protested against the way in which the case had been rushed through.

The Assessor replied that an opportunity to protest would be given elsewhere.

Yang Lang-jun, the working manager of the printing shop, then came before the Court charged with being concerned in printing the above matter.

The Court questioned accused, who said that the owner of the shop was in Hankow and his son was temporarily in charge at the time; a shroff from the Sin Yi Bank came there with an order for the leaflets to be printed. The shroff came to accused and accused replied that he would not do the work; but the shroff said that the bank would take all responsibility in the matter. Accused then agreed to do the work. The proprietor's son was employed at the Presbyterian Mission Press, not the proprietor.

The Court cautioned the accused and ordered that the printing office should be sealed up and the circulars confiscated.

Inspector Chilver applied for a warrant for the arrest of the proprietor of the printing office and the Court said that it would consider the application.

The Bank Manager, Jang Sen-yung, was subsequently driven to the Taotai's Yamên by Magistrate Wong, accompanied by a native detective of the Shanghai Municipal Police.

THE PROCLAMATION.

A proclamation by the Taotai, forwarded through the Senior Consul, has been received and posted in the Settlement in the following terms:—

Translation of Proclamation issued by the Taotai, dated January 11, 1908.

Whereas it is stated that, with reference to the Chêkiang and Kiangsu Railway Loan, proposals have been raised in commercial circles not to make use of English goods or of Hongkong and Shanghai Banknotes; the Taotai in co-operation with the Chamber of Commerce has made efforts to oppose and put an end to them. A letter moreover was written by the Soochow Railway Co. to the newspapers, requesting them not to insert further announcements.

It was, therefore, not to be foreseen that recently the Hsin I Bank should, in spite of this, have printed and issued a circular. This proceeding, by the wanton disturbance of public trade, is calculated to bring about very grave harm. Besides requesting the Chamber of Commerce to inform branch associations in other places, in every case to take steps to exhort and prevent this measure, I now accordingly issue a proclamation and hereby look to merchants to take note that the existence of open trade transactions between Chinese and Foreigners depends upon mutual circulation of money and goods, of which, if stoppage once takes place, harm results to all branches of commerce and benefit to none. When on a past occasion American goods were boycotted, Chinese trade suffered thereby to no small extent, and this may be taken as an example to be avoided. All, therefore, should peaceably continue their trade and give no credence to circulars or comply with the views therein contained. After this proclamation if further circulars as to discontinuing the use of English goods and Hongkong Banknotes are issued, they will constitute wilful disregard of this warning and will result in severest punishment without mercy. In making this announcement the Taotai is actuated by the motive of protection of trade conditions. Let all tremble and obey.

Council Room,
Shanghai, January 13, 1908.

THE CHEKIANG DISTURBANCES.

Eight Sisters of the Order of St. Vincent de Paul arrived here from Tsofoupang yesterday, reports the *N. C. D. News*, of 13th inst.:—In that village the Sisters carry on a useful work among the poor. They have a hospital with twenty beds for women and thirty for men, a dispensary and an orphanage, and 200 children look to them for support. Of these infants 100 have been placed out to nurse with Christian families. At the time of the Ahzah disturbances, Mgr. Reynaud, Bishop of Ningpo, happened to be in the neighbourhood of Tsofoupang, and as the Mandarin of the district informed him that he could not guarantee the safety of the Sisters, he gave them instructions to come to Shanghai for a fortnight. They left at 10 a.m. on Friday, when a posse of 100 soldiers took possession of the premises to guard it from rioters. The Bishop and priest remain at the village for the present.

The Sisters state that the trouble is entirely due to the Mandarin of the district who has attempted to raise the tax on rice. The rioters have shown no anti-foreign feeling; they burnt down the Catholic Mission at Ahzah merely because, they said, the Mandarin would have to pay for it. The malcontents have been looting freely, and they seem to be adherents to a secret society. The Sisters understand that the rioters wear a distinctive dress, and go about in bands of about a thousand. They have been stopping boats on the canals and holding wealthy gentry for ransom. It is reported that before the advent of the band spies are sent into the neighbourhood to find out whether there are any wealthy residents there. The Sisters came down in a houseboat without a mishap of any kind. The leading stage at Ahzah was destroyed.

RAT-CATCHING IN HONGKONG.

H. E.'S SUGGESTION TO CHINESE HOUSEHOLDERS.

IMPORTANT CONFIDENTIAL MINUTES MADE PUBLIC.

At the meeting of the Sanitary Board, which was held last Tuesday afternoon some important correspondence was read relative to the rat-catching system as carried out in Hongkong. The correspondence is appended:—

Colonial Secretary's Office,
13th December, 1907.

Sir,—I am directed to inform you that the question of continuing the present system under which rats are caught in connection with the measures for the prevention of plague, has been under the consideration of the Government, and I am to transmit for the consideration of the Sanitary Board the enclosed copies of minutes by the Medical Officer of Health and the Principal Civil Medical Officer together with the accompanying tables of statistics showing the results of the labours of the staff employed in the catching of rats, together with a statement of the monthly cost of the staff.

I am also to enclose copy of a minute by His Excellency the Governor in which this question, with others, is commented on.

In view of the figures contained in the 1st and 2nd paragraphs of the P. C. M. O.'s minute above referred to and of the statement therein that "the first cases of rat plague are generally in houses—the rest are dumped, *e.g.*, in Elgin Road, the first two cases occurred in houses followed by eleven thrown out," the Government would be glad to learn whether in the opinion of the Sanitary Board effect should be given to the suggestions of Dr. Clark,—I am, etc.,

(Sd.), F. H. MAY,
Colonial Secretary.

The Secretary, Sanitary Board.

RAT-CATCHERS NOT WANTED.

The minute of the Medical Officer of Health reads:—There are fourteen rat-catching coolies now employed, while some portion of the time of the coloured foremen interpreters on the plague staff is given to the supervision of these coolies. I have for many months past been convinced that, in this Colony at least, the rat-catchers are not worth retaining. They are a source of irritation to the Chinese, who resort to every method of stultifying their work—such as by springing off the rat traps, turning the birdlime board upside down, or hanging them up in inaccessible positions, and if perchance a rat is caught it is usually flung into the roadway, and opposite a neighbour's house rather than opposite the house where it was caught, or had died. We cannot hope to make an appreciable impression upon the enormous rat population that lives underground—in sewers, storm drains, retaining walls and burrows—and hence I think that our efforts should be directed wholly to excluding rats from dwellings.—This we do by requiring concreted ground surfaces, the provision of gratings to all drain inlets, and ventilating openings, the abolition, as far as possible, of ceilings and hollow walls and the regular collection of garbage so as to leave as little food as possible available for this vermin.

I would not abolish rat-catching altogether, but would make this merely a small part of the ordinary duty of the plague inspector, who should supply rat-traps, rat poison, or birdlime boards *on application* by any householder, and should otherwise only apply these measures when specially directed by one of the Medical Officers of Health.—This would dispense with the necessity for any special rat-catching staff. I am glad to see that only within the last two or three months Dr. Ashburton Thompson has expressed similar views to foregoing. Dr. Thompson is a well-known authority on plague. "Danysz virus has not so far proved a success in this Colony.

INFECTED RATS.

The P.C.M.O. minuted:—From the lists attached it will be seen that in Victoria 208 plague infected rats were found in houses during 1906, and in Kowloon 50. In twelve of these cases in Victoria, plague has followed and in two in Kowloon, but rat plague has been followed by human plague in adjoining houses in five more cases in Kowloon, viz.:—

Rat plague.	Human plague.
69, Station Street.	71, Station Street.
14, Temple Street N.	10, Temple St. N.
14, Do. S.	12, Do. S.
18 & 19, Austin Rd.	19, 20 & 23, Austin Rd.
27, Elgin Road.	28, Elgin Road.

Austin and Elgin Roads have houses in consecutive numbers; the others have even numbers on one side and odd numbers on the other. Also see return of rats found in streets in Victoria which have been followed by cases occurring in houses. Dr. Macfarlane's experience is that the first cases of rat plague are generally in houses, the rest are dumped, *e.g.*, in Elgin Road, the first two cases occurred in houses, followed by eleven thrown out. Acting on this he has turned the general cleansing gang on to the whole block if infected rats were being found thrown out. The people do not appear to mind the general cleansing, whereas special rat cleansing alarms them. Infected rats thrown into the street are of very considerable value if the general cleansing is done after them, as even if a rat be found in one particular house, it does not necessarily follow that it has always lived there.

"FUNNELS" USELESS.

Mr. Shelton Hooper—It is satisfactory to note the M. O. H. in his minute confirms the view expressed in the report of the Public Health Buildings Ordinance Commission (see paragraphs Nos. 166 to 170 and 241).

I should like to see what Dr. Ashburton Thompson, who is quoted by the M. O. H., says on the subject of rat-catching. I quite agree with H.E. the Governor in his minute (No. 2 C), that it would be well if every householder kept a cat, but there is a great difficulty in this Colony to do it, as they are so often stolen—I believe for the purpose of being eaten by the natives. If a reward is given for capture of rats it must be small. Further particulars about "Ratin" ought to be obtained from our local druggists.

I cannot agree that the present system of compelling "funnels" to be placed on the cables connecting ships with wharves is of any use, because as a rule gangway boards are placed from the wharf to the ships for use of passengers and crew, so that a rat would always have access to the ship. And even when these boards are not in use the fenders or guards of a ship are in contact with the wharf and thereby affording easy access to the rats at all times to enter or leave a ship, but on this point further evidence should be taken from the captains of ships.

His Excellency's suggestions contained in paragraph 4 for Lectures to address the common people and the establishment of street committees I consider to be very good and I believe would lead to excellent results. With regard to H.E.'s suggestion about the immigration of Children from Congested districts in Victoria to Kowloon I regret to say that whilst it would be most beneficial, judging from past experience, I do not believe the Chinese would avail themselves of the opportunities offered, as they object to live away so far from the seat of their labours. This is borne out, I consider, by the large number of vacant tenements in the East portion of Victoria at lower rentals than those obtained in the congested districts, notwithstanding the fact also that the tenements referred to are easily and quickly accessible by tram.

Although the minute of H.E. the Governor and those of the P. C. M. O. and M. O. H. are circulated confidentially, I consider better results would be obtained in making them as public as possible, and I trust the Government will have no objection to this being done.

The Hon. Mr. E. A. Hewett—I think the Government should be asked to publish these papers. His Excellency's minute is specially worthy of consideration by the community.

Mr. Lau Chu Pak—It has long been known that rat-catching in the way it has been conducted could never give a successful result and will only set the people against the efforts of the Board, so long as it is continued. Unless the Chinese are taught to co-operate, it is simply a waste of money. I entirely endorse H.E. the Governor's remarks that educational and practical means should now be substituted for the old and costly and drastic measures. Why is this marked confidential?

ALLEGED FORGERY.

PRISONER DISCHARGED.

The Criminal Sessions were continued last Tuesday morning, and the second case on the calendar was that against Ng Fook, *alias* Ma Fong, who was charged with disposing of a forged $5 banknote, and with being in possession of two others.

Sir Francis Piggott was the presiding judge, Mr. W. Rees Davies (Attorney-General), instructed by Mr. G. E. Morrell, of Messrs. Dennys and Bowley, appeared for the Crown. The accused, who was undefended, pleaded not guilty to the charges.

Following were the jurors empanelled:—Messrs. James Lockhead (foreman), Robert Sutherland, A. D. Galloway, J. E. Danielsen, B. Aagaard, A. Jenkins and Ho Yue Ming.

After stating the charges on which the prisoner stood indicted, the Attorney-General said that at about eleven o'clock on the night of the 18th December prisoner went to a house of ill-fame at No. 7, Praya West, where he contracted a bill amounting to $1.80. He paid the bill with a $5 bill purporting to have been issued by the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank, and received back $3.20 as change. Shortly afterwards the mistress of the house heard that one of the other girls belonging to her house had been locked up at No. 7 Police Station, and collecting a sum of money, which included the $5 bill she had received from the prisoner, went to bail her out. The police detected the forged bill, and questioned the mistress, who showed them to the prisoner. The latter admitted disposing of the bill, but denied he had a guilty knowledge. He said he got them in gambling at Canton. That was the gist of the offence, the Attorney-General said. The jury had to satisfy themselves that the prisoner when uttering the forged bill had a guilty knowledge.

Evidence followed.

The jury after deliberating held that prisoner had no guilty knowledge and returned a verdict of not guilty. He was then discharged.

JAPAN AND FOREIGN STEAMSHIP COMPETITION.

VIEWS OF A JAPANESE OFFICIAL.

Mr. Uchida, Director of the Marine Bureau in the Department of Communications, in concluding a long statement on the marine transport business of Japan, makes some remarks on steamship competition.

Japanese transport having made remarkable progress in Japan during the last few years, Mr. Uchida has reason to think that foreigners have been led to feel uneasiness concerning the competition of the Japanese mercantile marine. The President of the P. & O. Steam Navigation Co., at its general meeting held towards the end of last year, stated that the company's steamers on the Indian line had felt severely the competition of Japanese vessels. This was, he said, the result of the Japanese steamship companies having been compelled by the Government to increase the number of vessels on the Indian line. This statement was erroneous. The Bombay line of Japanese steamers was originally opened for the purpose of encouraging the development of trade between Japan and India, and more especially for the shipment of raw cotton from India. At first the line did not pay expenses. The service, however, was one of much promise and it could not be allowed to be discontinued so it was made a service under Government "order" for the time being. But since the spring of 1906 it has been made a free private service again, and the Government has issued no more orders in regard to it.

Again, the opinion seems to be entertained in America that the supremacy of the Pacific will at last fall into the hands of Japanese steamers. But Mr. Uchida thinks that it is as yet quite impossible for Japanese steamers, inexperienced in deep-sea navigation, to advance to such a position. It is, however, evident that it is not an improper aspiration of Japan that she should enjoy a fair share of the world's marine transport business, as Japan must stand as one of the sea-going nations of the world, and it is quite proper that she should encourage the development of her foreign trade and marine transport by granting a Government subsidy after the example of foreign countries. There are only two ways of granting protection—one to assist according to the existing Steam Navigation Encouragement Law and the other to pay the amount of subsidy approved by the Diet, and under certain conditions imposed. Some foreign newspapers, continued Mr. Uchida, seemed to think that a secret subsidy was being paid to steamship companies; and it was superfluous for him to say that such could not be practised under the present constitutional government."

We do not know what foreign newspapers Mr. Uchida refers to. No such suggestion has been made that we are aware of. But Mr. Uchida is himself correct in saying that the present Bombay service of the Nippon Yusen Kaisha is a profitable one? From the references made in the N.Y.K. reports we had been led to understand that this was not the case. If it does not pay on strictly commercial principles, it is clear that the Nippon Yusen Kaisha must depend on the profits from or the subsidies to other of its lines in order to keep this one going. Of course no objection can be raised to Japan granting a subsidy to her steamships any more than other nations. The point we have made is that such a subsidy checks instead of aids a healthy development of the carrying trade, and we have only to adduce the case of the British carrying trade before and after the repeal of the Navigation Act to prove our contention. Unless the cargo-carrying trade pays,—and we very much doubt if the ocean carrying trade of Japan does pay,—it cannot be to the interests of the nation to be taxed for its support.—*Japan Chronicle.*

THE SPITTING NUISANCE.

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE.

MR. LAU CHU PAK OPPOSES THE MAJORITY.

The report of the Committee who were appointed to frame the draft bye-laws to regulate spitting in public places, was made public at the meeting of the Sanitary Board held last Tuesday afternoon, together with a lengthy minute by Mr. Lau Chu Pak, who opposed the majority's recommendations. The report reads:—

1.—No person shall spit in any part of any building if such part is or may be used in common by two or more tenants of separate portions of such building, except in a backyard, lavatory, latrine or urinal or other place specially provided for the purpose.

2.—No person shall spit in any part of any bakehouse, dairy, aerated water factory, food preserving establishment, library, museum, or Government building or compound, except in a backyard, lavatory, latrine, urinal or other place specially provided for the purpose.

3.—Any person who shall contravene any of the provisions of these bye-laws shall be liable, on summary conviction before a Magistrate, to a penalty not exceeding ten dollars.

(Sd.), HENRY HUMPHREYS.
" F. W. LYONS, C.S.P.
" FRANCIS CLARK.

Mr. Lau Chu Pak minuted:—How are these bye-laws to be carried out in Chinese tenement houses, almost all of which are used in common by more than two tenants, food-preserving establishments and bakehouses, which include restaurants and cake shops? If, as I understand, the officers of the Sanitary Board or the police will be empowered by these bye-laws to give every Chinaman in charge, when they happen to see him spitting in his own house or at Chinese public places of meeting, I cannot lend my support to the resolution. It is not true that "practically every Chinaman spits." The better class of Chinese also dislike the habit. When they want to spit, as it must be admitted every man sometimes must spit, they use spittoons or handkerchiefs. It is only the lower class who spit at random for want of such articles. In teaching manners, Chinese parents of the better class always warn their children not to spit in the presence of their elders, and even in every-day life, when they see their children spit they object, not because of any hygienic reason which few of them understand, but because, in their superstition, the blessings in store for their children would be reduced. I am, therefore, not opposing on behalf of the better class. As to the lower class, who form the bulk of the population, it is they who will feel the sting of these bye-laws, when adopted. What they have been made to suffer by sanitary measures all these years is well-known. While we are just sitting down to moderate such measures to gain their confidence, it is certainly not a wise step to take to increase the powers of the Board's officers by allowing them to prosecute the majority of the Chinese inhabitants—not on account of any criminal offence—but simply spitting in their own houses and amongst their own people. Should legislation be recommended to go so far? If these bye-laws are made to apply only to European dwelling-houses, offices, public vehicles, chairs and Government buildings, I would raise no objection.

In such cases, it is only right that the Chinese should be taught how to behave themselves. But, still, the fine is heavy. I think $5 is a sum big enough for coolies to pay.

The Hon. Registrar-General—Is a spittoon included in the term "other place?" What is the exact authority in the Ordinance for these bye-laws?

Hon. P. C. M. O.—These bye-laws are proposed to be made under Sec. 16, sub-sections 10, 17, 19, 20, 32 and 35.

ANOTHER TRADE-MARK DISPUTE.

COMPLAINT AGAINST A FOREIGN FIRM.

The *Japan Official Gazette* contains the decision of the Patent Bureau in the application of Messrs. Jonas and Colver, Limited (for the Continental Steel Works of Sheffield, England) against Messrs. A. Cameron & Co., Limited, No. 93, Kobe, for the invalidation of the registration of a trade-mark, No. 27,561, in Japan. The applicants prayed for a declaration of invalidity in the case of the registration of this trade-mark, which related to cutlery, saws, chisels, drills, knives, razors, axes, planes, nails, screw-making machines, iron-picks, &c. The trade-mark No. 20,391, registered for the applicants on November 13th, 1903, consisted of the word "Novo" made up of the roman letters "N" & "V," and two oval lenses of spectacles, which are adopted for the letters "O," being the distinctive mark used for the articles quoted. Applicants had been supplying steel and cutlery bearing the mark "Novo" prior to the registration of the trade-mark of the respondents, and the mark was generally known by dealers in and users of cutlery and the like, as distinguishing the articles supplied by the applicants. To the trade-mark No. 27,561 used by the respondents was added the word "High-speed." That indicated speed of operation with workmen's tools and it was well-known by people interested in the cutlery business that those words formed a common term indicating superior quality in cutlery and edged articles. It was clear from No. 6 of Article 11, of the Trade-mark Law, which prohibited the use in a trade-mark of a word indicating quality, that the trade-mark of the respondents ought not to have been registered.

In reply the respondents maintained that the trade-mark of the applicants and that of respondents did not resemble one another as alleged. The term "High-speed" was not intended to denote the superior quality of the cutlery as maintained by the applicants. There were many other words which would indicate quality, such as "sharp," "strong," &c. The words "High-speed" had a special significance, so that respondents' trade-mark should not be dealt with according to No. 6 of Article 11, of the Trade-mark Law.

In its decision the Patent Bureau points out that the trade-mark of the respondents consists of the words "Novo" combined with "High-speed," the latter term "High-speed" forming the most prominent part of the mark, and being a common adjective representing the quality of steel goods. Therefore the trade-mark in question must be held to be invalid, as it infringes the regulation No. 6 of Article 11. of the Trade-mark Law which prohibits the registration of words denoting quality. Judgment is given accordingly in favour of the applicants.—*Japan Chronicle.*

FOR ill-treating a performing bear, by constantly tugging at a rope which was fastened to its nose with a steel ring, because the beast would not perform its tricks in a proper way, two showmen were, at the Police Court, last Saturday, ordered to pay a fine of $10 each. Detective Sergeant O'Sullivan made the arrests. The bear, which is about the size of a dog, passed the night quietly in a cell beside its master.

CLUB LUSITANO CONCERT.

A MUSICAL TREAT.

The Sociedade Philharmonica and their friends—the promoters—had every reason to be gratified with the complete success attending the musical soirée given at the Club Lusitano last Monday night. Every seat in the spacious hall of the Club was filled by nine o'clock before the concert commenced and many gentlemen had to content themselves with standing room only. The programme opened with Tannhäuser's March by the orchestra of the Sociedade Philarmonica under the baton of Mr. F. Gonsalez. Since the last public appearance of the orchestra, the combination has made wonderful improvements and in their rendering of Tannhäuser difficult March they exemplified the truism of the saying, "Practice makes perfect." Mr. F. X. Lopes is a familiar figure in the Club's musical entertainments; he sang "Last Watch" (Pinsuti) with considerable feeling and his pleasing tenor voice found scope in the plaintive melody of the song. Mrs. Lopes Guterres accompanied on the piano. The Orchestra "Lyra" made their *debut* last night, and, in treating the audience to Czibuska's intermezzo "Love's Dream after the ball," the "Lyra" showed the capabilities of clever orchestration for such pleasing drawing-room instruments as the mandolins: (Misses A. de Selavisa Alves, Jovenina Remedios and M. Barradas; Messrs. F. M. da Silva, F. B. da Silva, L. Ribeiro, R. Gutierres and H. Remedios. Portuguese guitars (Misses. E. R. Aquino and Maria Ribeiro). Spanish guitars: Miss Cecilia Ribeiro and Messrs. Ed. Remedios, F. Ribeiro and J. Rozario, and mandolin Mr. S. Pinna. The appearance of Miss Edith Carvalho was the signal for an immense ovation by the large gathering, present and testified to the popularity of the old favourite of the Hongkong concert platform. The return of Miss Carvalho before the musical public last night assured them of a treat in which they were not disappointed. She selected Venzano's "Adagio e Valzer cantabile" and in rendering that beautiful song she imparted into it the various shades of expression and clear enunciation which are the accomplishment of a finished artiste. Miss Carvalho's exquisite soprano voice literally held the audience spell-bound when, concluding a beautiful song, her tremolo notes reverberated through the concert hall. She was applauded again and again and, gracefully complying with an insistent demand for an encore, she sang Alvarez's "La Partida" in Spanish. This second effort completely captivated the auditorium. Mr. A. V. da Silva ably seconded Miss Carvalho's success, on the piano. Following on the specialized item of the evening Miss C. Ribeiro appeared at a disadvantage in her violin solo, "Madrigale." Mrs. Sara Alves' execution of Mendelsohn's difficult "Rondo Capriciose" on the piano was suitably applauded. A Fantasia from "Faust" by the Orchestra brought the first part of the programme to a conclusion.

The Orchestra re-appeared after the interval and delighted the listeners in a well-played overture from "Ruy Blas." Miss Angela Alves next faced the footlights. This young lady played a large part in the evening's success; her song "Mia Piccerella" (Gomes) was a vivid vocal interpretation of a charming composition. The audience demanded, and Miss Alves obliged with, an encore, singing "La Robe Azur" by Vradier. The characteristic style and time of the Spanish melody were particularly pleasing to those present and, at the conclusion, Miss Alves was very loudly applauded. The Orchestra "Lyra" again took the stage for the second time in the evening and kept the audience delightfully entertained with the March "David" (Strohe), and "La Palomita"—a bolero especially adapted to the soft strains of the mandolins. Mr. F. X. Lopes obligingly appeared in the second part of the programme, and in the song "Nirvana" scored another success. The *piece de resistance* was undoubtedly Mr. F. Gonsalez's 'cello solo "Au Prin emps." Mr. Gonsalez's performance was marked by all the brilliancy of an artist of no mean order. Calls for an encore could not be responded; it was no wonder seeing that that gentleman had to wield the baton so frequently in the course of the evening. A guitar trio by the Misses E. Aquino, Maria and Cecilia Ribeiro next followed. It was a pleasingly rendered item. The members of the Sociedade Philarmonica next occupied the boards and brought the programme to a close with Verdi's symphony "Aroldo," at the conclusion of which the orchestra played the National Anthem.

To Mr. S. Pinna, the president of the Society, a special word of commendation is due for his arduous labours for weeks which were mainly responsible for the great success the concert was pronounced to be by the members of the Club and their British and German fellow-citizens who accepted invitations to the concert.

THE WEST RIVER.

In spite of various reports to the effect that the West River is to be placed under the control of the Commissioner of the Imperial Maritime Customs at Wuchow, I learn on excellent authority that, as a matter of fact, the Shuiwuch'u, or Revenue Council, has never issued any instructions to the Inspector-General of the I.M.C., writes the Peking correspondent of the *N. C. D. News* on 7th inst. The question has not yet been definitely settled between the Waiwupu and the British Legation, in Peking, so that the uproar made by the natives of the Liangkwang Provinces is both premature and useless. It is said that the British gunboats which have been sent up the West River, are only intended to search for pirates on board those steamboats and launches which fly the British flag, because the British authorities at Hongkong intend to put a stop to the misuse of the "Union Jack" which is often obtained by Chinese merchants with the idea that the purchasers may claim protection from the British Government in case of trouble with the local Chinese officials.

I am informed that, as the policing of the West River is the duty of the Chinese authorities in Kwangsi, the Inspectorate-General of the I. M. C. cannot interfere. But if the Peking Government thinks fit to place it under the control of the Commissioner at Wuchow, there will be no objection on the part of the Inspectorate-General to take up the responsibility. As things stand the Imperial Maritime Customs have not the slightest intention to interfere in the matter unless actually ordered by the Controller-General of the Shuiwuch'u to do so.

THE NAVAL COMMAND.

Some days ago, the Waiwupu telegraphed to Viceroy Chang Jee-chun at Canton and Governor Chang Min-chi at Kweilin to report upon the proposal to re-appoint a naval Commander-in-Chief for the Liangkwang Provinces. It has been urged that the existing Commander of land and naval forces in Kwangtung cannot spare his full time and attention to police the various inland waterways. Hence the proposals. Viceroy Chang proposes to appoint a special high Chinese official as commissioner in charge of the policing of the West, Canton and other rivers which are infested with pirates. He states that the people of the Liangkwang Provinces are willing to defray the expenses by subscription.

BELILIOS PUBLIC SCHOOL.

DISTRIBUTION OF PRIZES.

Last Tuesday afternoon, his Excellency Sir Frederick Lugard, who was accompanied by her Ladyship, presented the prizes to the successful scholars at Belilios Public School.

THE SCHOOL'S REPORT.

Gentlemen.—The following is the 17th annual report of the school. The staff of the English and Anglo-Chinese divisions is the same as for the previous year. In the Chinese division there has been one change among the assistant masters, and an extra needlework teacher has been appointed from the beginning of the year. The attendance shows a distinct improvement on that of last year, the daily average for 1907 being 108, as against 82 for 1906, in the English department, while in the vernacular division it is 237 as compared with 187 in the previous year. Of the 132 new scholars admitted during the year, 4 were of English nationality, 63 Chinese, 25 Portuguese and 10 Eurasian. To encourage a longer attendance at school a change has been made in the arranging of the five free scholarships. Instead of having these competed for annually they have been made to extend over four years, thus taking a pupil from Class VB to Class IA, and new scholarships are to be awarded as the original ones fall vacant. It is naturally too early yet to speak of the success or otherwise of the experiment. With a view to encouraging the girls attending the district schools, and at the same time to induce them to take up the study of English, 3 free scholarships of one year's duration were awarded to the beginning of 1907 to the Duxgirls in District School Nos. 33, 60, 69. The pupil from No. 60, failed to put in an appearance here, but the other two have fully appreciated the favour, and have made satisfactory progress. The annual examination for the 5 prizes annually awarded through the kindness of Mr. E. R. Belilios was held in June last, and the prizes according to the decision of the Inspector of Schools. We were somewhat surprised to receive in Feb. last the belated results of the St. Louis Exhibition held in 1904. For the embroideries then exhibited, this school was awarded a silver medal and a Diploma of merit. An extra teacher of needlework in the vernacular division has been a most popular appointment, and the girls are now taught to cut out and make their own clothes, as well as fine embroidery work. The school buildings have recently been put in thorough repair and colour-washed and painted throughout. The very best thanks of the teachers and pupils are gratefully given to the gentlemen who so kindly subscribed to the prize fund.

PRIZE LIST.

The following pupils received prizes:—

Composition, Grace Ablong; English, Edith Mow Fung; History, Olive Lee Chooey; General Intelligence, Grace Ablong; Diligence, Mabel Long; Reading, Edith Mow Fung; Arithmetic, Grace Ablong; Hygiene, Edith Mow Fung; Geography, Grace Ablong; Map-drawing Ivy Lee Chooey.

Class II and III:—Composition, Rose Ablong; English, Felicita Luz; General Intelligence, Agnes Johnson-Lee; Reading, Lily Rose; History, Felicita Luz; Arithmetic, Rose Ablong; Hygiene, Lily Rose; Geography, Felicita Luz; Map-drawing, Dolly Yew.

Classes IV and V.—Composition, Mary Davis; English, Mary Lesbirel; History, Mary Davis; General Intelligence, Irene Croucher; Arithmetic and Hygiene, Angelina dos Santos; Reading, Irene Croucher; Arithmetic, Mabel Mooney; Hygiene, Cissy Rosario; Geography, Angelina dos Santos.

Class VI.—Composition, Carrie Goon; English, Clothilde Baptista; Reading, George Course; Arithmetic, Camille Collaço; Recitation, George Course; Geography, Ethel Mooney.

Class VII.—Composition, Alda Loureiro, English, Joseph Collaço; Reading, Bertha Goon; Arithmetic, Francis da Silva; Dictation, Louise Ribeiro; Diligence, Herminia dos Santos; General Intelligence, Joseph Collaço; General Improvement, Christaline Collaço.

Class VIII.—Reading, Marion Goon; Writing, Francis Loureiro; Arithmetic, Nina Rosario; General Improvement, Maria Loureiro; Spelling, Henrique Silva; Drawing, Lily Price; Dictation, Joseph Pino; Recitation, Doris Wolfe.

Full Attendance prizes:—1.—Felicita Luz, 2.—Zahara Alarakia, 3.—Chan Wai Yau, 4.—Wong Tin Tai, 5.—Lo Yuk Tin, 6.—Chan Fung Wa.

Anglo-Chinese Division:—Class V B.—1 Chan Fung Wa, 2 Tso Pik Mei, 3 Woog King Sin.

Writing.—Leung A Ling; Zahara Alarakia, General Improvement.

Class VI B.—1 Wong Tin Tai, 2 Chau A Yuk, 3 Jane Wilson.

Writing.—Chan Wai Yau.

Class VII B.—1 Shing Tak Hing, 2 Chan A So, 3 Choi Sau King.

Writing.—Yeung Yeuk Lin. General Improvement, Chau Sau Wan.

Class VIII B.—1 Hop Fun Ching, 2 Chan Sam Mui, 3 Fung Ki Kwan.

Writing.—Chan A Kan. General Improvement.—Alberto Rodrigues.

Infants.—Hung Shap Mui.

Chinese Embroidery.—VE. Wong King Sin, Tso Pik Mei; VIB. Ng Lai Sin, Chan A Yi VIIB. Chan Pik King, Chau A So; VIIIB. To Yin Fong Hung Hing Mui.

Chinese Dress-making.—(1) Chau King Chan, (2) Ko Oi Sin.

Plain Sewing.—Chan Sau Wa. Kitting.—Jane Wilson. Crochet.—Chau Fung Wa, Chan Sam Mui.

Vernacular School:—Reading and Composition—Standard VII.—(1) Chan Yat Hing, (2) Kung Yuk King, (3) Kwok Sui Ching.

Standard VI.—(1) Tsui Wai Fong, (2) Tsui Wai Hing, (3) Ng Yun Lin.

Standard III.—(1) Cheung Hai Yung, (2) Hai Yi, (3) U Yuk Ching.

Standard II.—(1) U Wing Yi, (2) U Mi Yi, (3) Ma Wai Wa.

Standard I A.—(1) Tang Tsui, (2) Chan Sui Chun, (3) Hung Ng Mui.

Standard I B.—(1) Fung Hai Wa, (2) Wong Kat, (3) Cheung Hai Shim.

Elocution:—Standard VII.—(1) Chan Yat Hing.

Standard VI.—(2) Ho Shiu King.

Standard V.—(2) Wong Tai Kiu.

Standard VI.—(4) Ko Tsui Lan.

Standard VI.—(5) Yip Oi Lan.

Standard VI.—(6) Li Wai Ching.

Standard IV.—(7) Kung Yuk Min.

Needlework:—Standard VII.—Yung Hee Wan. Standard VI, Li Wai Ching; Standard V, Chau Tsui Ping; Standard IV, Hau Seung Han; Standard III, Lai Yi; Standard II, U Pik King; Standard IA, Chan Sui Chun; Standard IB, Ling Fung Po.

Recitation.—Lai Tsui Sung, Li Sai So, Li Sai Kee, Wong Lai Ying, Tsui Mui, Li Yiu Yi, Wong Fung Shim.

SUBSCRIBERS TO PRIZE FUND.

List of subscribers to prize fund is appended:—Hoobie, Sir Paul Chater, C.M.G., Hoobie, Dr. Ho Kai, Messrs. H. R. M. Smith, Tobe, Shewan, W. C. Hamphreys, E. Humphreys, E. Shellim, A. J. Raymond, Sen Woo Lun Chu Fat, Ho Fook, Ho Tung, Fung Wa Chuk, Chan Shiu Ki, Butterfield and Swire, Jardine, Matheson & Co., Gibb, Livingston & Co., Lindsay and Davis, D. Sassoon & Co, Sam Wang and Co, Johnson, Stokes and Master, Hughes and Hough, Bradley & Co, Norddeutscher Lloyd, Douglas Lapraik & Co, Nippon Yusen Kaisha, Lane, Crawford & Co, Tak Cheong & Co, Lock Hing & Co.

THE KOWLOON GODOWNS.

QUESTION OF COOLIE ACCOMMODATION.

An application from the Hon. Mr. E. Osborne, Secretary of the Hongkong and Kowloon Wharf and Godown Company, Ltd., relative to the question of accommodation for coolies in the Godown Company's premises, was received by the Secretary of the Sanitary Board and laid on the table at the meeting last Tuesday afternoon. It is as follows:—

Sir,—In view of our coolie quarters having no cubicles, I have the honour to apply for permission to house them on the basis of thirty feet of floor area and 400 of cubic space as was done formerly. I understand the Board has power to grant this permission.

Colonel H. Martin, A.M.S., minuted—Grant.

Mr. Shelton Hooper—Considering the good sanitary state of the property, Mr. Osborne's application should be granted.

Mr. Lau Chu Pak—400 cubic space for an adult in a well-ventilated house is quite sufficient.

THE SANITARY BOARD STAFF.

A FURTHER REDUCTION MADE.

Correspondence relative to the reduction of the staff of the Sanitary Board received the attention of members of the Board at the meeting last Tuesday afternoon.

Dr. Francis Clark, the medical officer of health, wrote:—"I have the honour to inform you that Inspectors Murphy, Willis and Sutherland returned to the police on January 1, and to meet this reduction in staff and the further reduction due to two recent vacancies not having been filled up, I have, in accordance with your instructions, arranged for the abolition of the special duties of the Senior Inspectors and also of the Prosecuting Inspectors, and now have one Inspector only in each district of the city, who is directly responsible to me for the sanitary condition of the houses in his district, while the scavenging work of the city is to be divided between three Inspectors (one of whom is at present on leave, and the remaining two are carrying out the duties). A similar arrangement has been made in Kowloon whereby one Inspector undertakes the supervision of the scavenging work, while the two District Inspectors report direct to Dr. Macfarlane and are responsible for the sanitary condition of the houses in their respective districts."

Mr. Shelton Hooper minuted—I am pleased to note that the recommendations of the Commission with regard to this part of the staff are being given effect to. What has been done about the abolition of the office of Market Inspector?

Mr. H. Humphreys—Excellent.

The P. C. M. O.—The position of one Market Inspector has been abolished, and the sanitary maintenance of markets is supervised by the district inspectors.

SERGEANT'S INTERPRETER MISSING.

SUSPECTED OF ROBBING A DEPORTEE, AND ESCAPES AFTER ARREST.

21st inst.

What is taxing the brains of the learned men at police headquarters at the present moment is the whereabouts of Kong Yan Wah, an interpreter of the Central Police Station, who, while under arrest on a charge of theft, succeeded in affecting an escape!

A few days ago a number—to be accurate—fifty-six deportees arrived in the Colony from the Straits Settlements on their way to the interior. Half of them were shipped to Canton the same night, the remainder remaining in police custody awaiting the arrival of a boat to take them to Swatow and Amoy. While being thus detained their personal effects were kept by the police until they were ready to be shipped. Early yesterday morning it became known to the officer-in-charge that the property, consisting of a bunch of keys, a gold ring and two twenty-cent pieces, of one of the deportees, by name Kong Ping, a farmer, had disappeared from the charge-room. A search was made, but with no results. By this time suspicion fell on Kong Yan Wah, the interpreter, who had taken part in returning each deportee his property, and he was called up and searched. The missing articles were found in his pocket. He was promptly locked up on a charge of theft. Some hours later he asked to be allowed to go to the lavatory, and it is stated that while there he succeeded in slipping away from the lukong, who had charge of him, and escaping by way of Aibunhnot Road. He had not been found up to this forenoon, and the belief is that he has already reached Chinese territory.

THE TIENTSIN-YANGTZE RAILWAY.

LOAN AGREEMENT SIGNED.

Peking, January 14.

The Tientsin-Yangtze Loan Agreement was signed yesterday between the representatives of the Anglo-German Syndicate and the Waiwupu. The amount of the loan is £5,000,000, to be issued within one year at 93, bearing five per cent. interest, and secured by Imperial guarantee and provincial revenue.

The length of the line is about 675 miles, of which the northern is the German section, amounting to roughly two-thirds of the whole. The period of construction is estimated at four years.

The system of administration is generally similar to that of the Northern Railway. Full control is vested in the Chinese Government, and the conditions of the contract are identical with those of the Soochow-Hangchow-Ningpo Agreement.

The publication of this document is expected to reassure provincial opinion, inasmuch as its terms are the most favourable that China has ever obtained here. Her sovereign rights are fully recognized.—*N. C. D. News.*

WEST RIVER FLOTILLA.

RETURN OF DESTROYERS.

[illegible] inst.

H.M. destroyers *Virago*, *Whiting*, and *Otter*, mobilised for the West River patrol, returned to port yesterday, and were followed later in the evening by torpedo-boat Nos. 82 and 28. The river gunboat *Kwai Sang* came down from Canton yesterday.

QUEEN'S COLLEGE.

ANNUAL PRIZE DISTRIBUTION.

The spacious hall of Queen's College—that premier seat of learning in the Colony—was crowded last Wednesday on the occasion of the presentation of prizes to the successful scholars by his Excellency Sir Frederick Lugard, who was accompanied by her Ladyship and Mr. A. J. Brackenbury, private secretary.

Among those present were:—Commodore and Mrs. Stokes, Hon. Mr. E. A. Hewett, Mr. Ho Kom Tong, Mr. Chou Leep Chee, Mr. E. D. C. Wolfe, Inspector of Schools, Bishop Lander, Archdeacon Banister, Mr. A. G. Romano, Consul-General for Portugal, and Mrs. J. J. Leiria, Vice-consul, Rev. and Mrs. Pearce, Rev. Mr. F. T. Johnson, Rev. Mr. C. H. Hickling, Mr. G. Piercy, Mr. and Mrs. Frank Browne, Brother Sylvester, Mrs. and Miss Shelton Hooper, Mrs. Bateson Wright, Mr. G. P. Lammert, Mr. and Mrs. Young Hee, Miss Harker, Mrs Chatham, Mr. and Mrs. Mooney, Mr. T. K. Dealy, Mr. E. Ralphs, Mr. A. W. Grant, Mr. Bertram Tanner, Mr. H. L. Garrett, Mr. A. H. Crook and others.

ANNUAL REPORT.

Dr. Bateson Wright read his report as follows:—During the year 1907, 645 boys applied for admission, of whom 396 secured seats. On the other hand 347 boys left in the course of the year. The total attendance for the year was 1,401. In the former half of the year, the total attendances were reduced owing to two causes, *viz.*, the premature attempt to abolish Class VII, and the depletion of the Upper School in 1906 on account of the abnormal number of boys obtaining situations in that year. The result is a reduction in the daily average attendance from 1,005 to 991. In the latter half of the year, the numbers recovered their usual figures, and we have this month an exceptionally high attendance, 1,049, *i.e.*, 64 more than in January, 1907. There were 228 school-days, three being lost on the occasion of the commercial processions, when most schools in the Colony were closed as Chinese masters and boys had relatives from the mainland whom they wished to entertain. The total gross expenditure was $60,995, or $4,863 more than in 1906, the increase being due to the 2/- rate for Exchange compensation ordered by the Secretary of State. The public paid one-half of the year's expenses of the College, and the cost of each boy to the public was $30.82. The statistics in this paragraph merely show a reversion to the conditions of 1905.

The following changes on the staff took place during the year:—

1 April, Mr. Lai Pui-yan appointed articled pupil teacher

30 April, Mr. Tsang Kun-wa, clerk, resigned.

1 May, Mr. Wong Wai-shu appointed clerk

4 May, Mr. R. E. O. Bird, senior assistant master, went on leave

20 September, Mr. B. Tanner returned from leave.

The drainage of the entire premises has been relaid, and a new masters' latrine provided. The roofs of two class-rooms have been repaired, and the cubic content of the rooms considerably increased by the exposure of the rafters. It does not appear possible for the Public Works Department to effect alterations of such magnitude in our short vacations (one month each, in February and August). The consequent dislocation of school work is considerable, as we have no spare room into which to transfer the disturbed class. We are obliged to use the grand entrance lobby, which is entirely unsuited for educational purpose. In the case of classes of 60 boys, some two dozen have to be distributed among others section which are thereby overcrowded. On the 13th of September a panic occurred in the east wing of the College, two or three hundred boys rushing downstairs, on account of a cry in the streets that Queen's College was falling. The origin of the scare was simple enough. A piece of plaster fell from the ceiling in a class room, whereupon all the boys in that room bolted. The wind blew the dust into the adjoining room, where the boys mistaking it for smoke shouted "Fire!" and ran. The people in the street added to the excitement. In five minutes order was restored and work resumed. It was discovered, however, that one boy, in alarm, for his own safety, had jumped over the verandah a distance of 25 feet. He was conveyed to hospital and returned to school a month later. To prevent the recurrence of such a panic, all plaster ceilings in classrooms and verandahs should be removed. This is the more necessary when we remember that these ceilings have been *in situ* fully twenty years and in many places are covered with patches.

The health of the College has been very good. The chief causes of absence from sickness were beri-beri, from which Chinese appear to recover with astonishing ease, and scabies, which often necessitates an absence of two or three months from school. Dr. Jordan and Dr. Grone were appointed by the Government to report on the condition of the eyes of the pupils of the College. They discovered a very large proportion of the boys suffering from trachoma in various stages.

I am pleased to be able to report a very marked improvement in the success of our candidates at the Oxford Local Examinations, which were held last July for the twentieth time at this centre. The occasion was signalised by Mok Kai-fook's taking third class junior honours. This is the first time that a Queen's College boy has obtained honours. This year, I am happy to say, that all our juniors took mathematics, passing 100 p.c. in arithmetic, 90 p.c. in algebra, 80 p.c. in geometry and 92 p.c. in mensuration; also 4 out of 5 or 80 p.c. in trigonometry. All the preliminary took higher arithmetic and algebra, passing 103 p.c. in arithmetic, 78 in algebra and 56 in higher arithmetic. The mark "good," next to distinction, was awarded 19 instead of 11 times as last year. Senior, 1 in Scripture. Junior, 3 in arithmetic, 1 in Scripture, 1 in algebra, 2 in geometry and 2 in mensuration. Preliminary, 4 in arithmetic, 2 in history, 2 in geometry and 1 in freehand drawing. The results of the annual examination for prizes and promotions, held by me under standing orders from the Governing Body, are as follows:—

Upper School	295 boys examined	279 or 94 % passed	
Lower "	625 "	577 " 93 "	"
Preparatory "	127 "	124 " 98 "	"
Total	1,044 "	980 " 94 "	"

The two previous annual percentages of passes are 81 in 1906, and 88 in 1905. Table I shows the percentage of passes in each subject. I have not the slightest hesitation in assessing the work of 1907 as excellent. I have invariably found the results of the Oxford Local Examinations to provide a safe criterion of the work to be expected in the Upper School and this year is no exception. It will always happen, in Oxford and all other examinations, that some particular questions may appear easier in one year than another. It is also worthy of notice that such apparently easy questions frequently act as pitfalls to the unwary. It may, however, safely be promised, and I fear no contradiction from my masters and boys, that the questions set by me in 1907 were as searching, and as severe tests of intelligence as in previous years. The hand-boys of most classes achieved the same aggregate as last year; but the following particular instances deserve notice: IIA 1,270 instead of 1,126, IIIA 1,132 instead of 945, II 1,017 instead of 700, IVB 1,003 instead of 858, VA 918 instead of 843, and VB 958 instead of 874. I desire to invite particular attention of the Upper School to 1906 referred to above (par. 2). It was necessary for me in September to form a fourth section of Class III. Mr. Tanner, on his return from England, took charge of this section, IIIB, which was composed of the boys in the various sections of Class IV, that obtained highest aggregates at my half-yearly examination in July. Not a single boy failed and the general tone of the work was excellent. The promotion of boys from Class IV to III entailed promotions in all classes below. Reference to the figures in the preceding paragraph will show that while no class came out worse than last year, three, IVB., VA. and VB, attained a much higher figure. Class IB that for many years has borne the unenviable reputation of being composed of dull, slow boys was observed by the class-masters and myself throughout the year to possess better material than usual, and to be working in a satisfactory manner. The opinion thus formed was amply justified the final result of the examination when 84 per cent. passed instead of 55. Non-Chinese boys throughout the College have acquitted themselves above the average: the head-boy of VA is a Japanese and of VB a Filipino. I have addressed the classes on the weak points observable in their papers throughout the examination and therefore do not propose to dwell on matters, which, in view of the general excellence of the results, appear comparatively trifling. For the first time in my experience the graphs in Classes I, II and III were excellently well done, and logarithms successfully employed by boys in Class IA. Mathematics generally and arithmetic in particular showed great improvement. The important subjects of English grammar, reading, conversation, dictation, composition and history, and the allied subjects of translations were of a high order of merit. The map-drawing from memory in Classes III., IV., V and VI were astonishing feats. A few boys in II A drew the southern counties of England well, but the map of Ireland proved too much for I. A.B. Hygiene was well taught to 736 boys, Mr. Sutherland being specially successful in teaching this subject to the boys of so low a standard as Class V.

With regard to special subjects, I find that the papers on physiology and natural science taught by Mr. Crook to non-Chinese boys of the Upper School in lieu of translations, were better done than for many years past, notably so in the case of physiology. Trigonometry, taught by myself to a class that had dwindled down to 14 boys at time of examination, also had made progress, the seniors doing very well and the juniors creditably. The Morrison scholar, Mok Kai-fook, floored every question on the senior paper losing few marks on matters of method. Model and freehand drawing taken by the second-master, Mr. Dealy, to a larger class than usual gave evidence of talent and application. When I arrived in the Colony, 22nd of January, 1882, I immediately proceeded to hold the annual examination of the Central School, 367 boys 1,875 papers. This year I have examined 1,044 boys and personally corrected 8,888 papers. The fact that I mark all the papers myself is not in any sense whatever a reflection on my staff, whose ability to hold examinations carefully is amply attested twice a year at the mid-term examinations. I am actuated by the very simple and to me excellent reason, the maintenance of one standard in appraising the excellence and intelligence of the answers throughout this large College. It is not because I lay any foolish claim to omniscience or to infallibility, but because I believe the gain to the whole College incalculable, and the loss to the individual (in the event of a slip) infinitesimal. A very good illustration of the wide divergence of views in assessing the same paper is afforded by the table of marks awarded by six masters (including myself) on the subject of composition in the first class. We none of us know the writer of a paper, there is nothing but an index number provided for the occasion. The five P Ts and all the boys in both sections of the class are thrown into hopeless disorder, a key being kept by headmaster. The marks awarded to one paper were 52, 70, 90, 90, 50, 63 and to another 70, 85, 96, 95, 64, 60. The following table may be of interest, showing how the number of papers under review is arrived at:—

Class I	32 boys	15 subjects	480 papers.
II	83	13	1,079
III	180	11	1,980
IV	233	11	2,563
V	208	9	1,872
VI	181	5	905
VII	127	3	381
Total	1,044		9,260
Marked subjects of boys partially examined			114
Not Drawing, Special Subjects			114
			9,624
Deduct E to C marks by second master			736
Total marked by head-master			8,888 papers.

We have a most excellent English staff. What is needed is for each master to specialise in some distinct branch. When I approached them by circular for the expression of their views in this direction, they showed a remarkable unanimity in their desire to specialise on natural science: but as the Governing Body is opposed to the introduction of elementary science into the curriculum, it behove the English masters to seek other channels for the vent of their energies. Mr. Grant has for years been practically mathematical master in Class I, also taking the subject of bookkeeping in Class II. I propose next month to make Mr. Crook *quasi* professor of geography, a subject in which he has distinguished himself. The great need of the College is a man who will so devote himself to the subjects of English grammar and composition as to be an authority on these important subjects. Since the death of Mr. Falconer (second master) twenty years ago, we have had no master prominent for ability in this direction, and the want of such a man is urgently felt in a college teaching the English language to students nearly all Chinese.

As regards the Chinese staff, we may also congratulate the public on service faithfully and energetically performed. Of these eleven Chinese assistants, the four at the head of the list may without hesitation be at once classified as excellent, and there are two or three promising young masters below them. The great desideratum among the remainder is an awakening to the fact that it is only by hard private study that they can equip themselves for the annually increasing demands made upon their store of knowledge, as teachers of a language foreign to them. Year after year by the abolition of lower classes they are promoted to the charge of higher classes, and in many instances it would appear that they are hardly equal to the strain. In this connection, it must be remembered that in spite of the fact that the Government has very greatly increased the scale of salaries attached to these posts, we do not find the better educated class of boys in the College electing education as a profession. In the old days the highest boys in the first class were eager to be monitors at $4 a month: now with $20 to 35 a month we have during the past eight years drawn our future masters from bare passes in Class I and even from Class II. The Normal master, Mr. Ralphs, speaks very highly of the work done by the five pupil teachers in their five respective classes. My observation throughout the year enables me to endorse that statement which is supported by the excellent results in Classes VI and VII at the annual examination. On the other hand, the result of the pupil teachers' examination in a theoretical paper and in practical demonstration in front of a class, together with the subjects, arithmetic, dictation, grammar, geography, composition and translations from and into Chinese, can only be described as a very qualified success.

Vernacular School.—707 boys were examined and 641 or 91 per cent. passed. 318 or 45 p.c. of the vernacular school are now in the highest class, Class 5. As only a dozen newly-admitted boys are fit for this class it is evident that great credit is due to the vernacular masters for the high standard to which they have raised the native school in three years.

The Reading and Cricket Clubs flourish. Gymnastic instruction, under Bombardier Wade, R.G.A., is very successful in small squads of 17, making a total of 85. Our football team has distinguished itself this year, by winning the H. K. Schools' Football League Shield, and fighting a well-contested game with the *Empress of India* Football team, winner of the *Empress* Competition Cup. Visits interchanged between the Q. C. and Christian College (Canton) football teams are a distinctly new departure, as there is no precedent on record of a Chinese football team leaving the mainland to play upon foreign shores. Q. C. was too strong for them, but it is hoped that better matches may take place in the future.

During the year 1907, 93 boys from Queen's College obtained situations: 9 in the H.K. Government service, 25 in local firms, 8 under the Chinese Government and 51 in various parts of the Far East. The above figures represent only these boys whose career on leaving school are known to us. Many boys are employed in Government and other offices without our knowledge, and it is impossible to say how many of the 89 boys who did not return after vacations last year and were marked "Left," are so employed.

I have once again to express our most fervent sense of gratitude for the generosity of the public in supplementing the Government Grant of $200 for prizes. Without their aid we should be unable to provide 48 prizes for 24 English, and 15 prizes for 15 vernacular classes: while special prizes for history and composition and special translations would be hopelessly impossible. We have no space for their names here, but they are annually posted at the College entrance, and are published in the *Yellow Dragon*, the monthly organ of the College. Queen's College is hindered in an ambitious upward course by the following considerations: It is a day-school, so that all attempts to teach English conversation are necessarily confined to school-hours and no supervision can be given to preparation of work. Again fully one-third of the boys change annually, and this has always been the case from time immemorial: 400 boys leaving and 400 new boys being admitted each year is a serious obstacle in the way of obtaining a large and efficient upper school. In this connection it must be observed that there is no external system for feeding the upper school of Queen's College such as exists in England: for the half-dozen boys from the Government District Schools are lost sight of when the number of seats available (400) is borne in mind. The table below should succeed in illustrating the slow but steady progress of Queen's College. Gradually the number of subjects has increased, and the increase in the number of scholars taking these subjects is enormous.

Subject	1881	1885	1889	1907
Translation E to C	301	379	676	736
" C to E	301	379	676	736
Grammar	172	312	547	1044
Geography	144	253	477	1044
Composition	83	127	360	736
History	30	75	143	295
Geometry	—	75	143	528
Algebra	—	75	143	528
Mensuration	—	25	24	115
Latin	—	—	117	—
General Intelligence	—	—	83	32
Shakespeare	—	—	24	32
Trigonometry	—	—	17	14
Hygiene	—	—	—	736
Bookkeeping	—	—	—	115

Proceeding, Dr. Wright said that he had omitted reference to visual instruction. The Inspector of Schools placed No. 2 magic lantern at the disposal of the College on the 15th November. It did not reach the school until a fortnight later, leaving very little time for lectures, which was even further curtailed by the commercial procession and the Christmas holiday. Mr. Garrett was, therefore, able to give only three lectures to a good audience. Dr. Wright said he attended the second lecture, and was very much struck with the interesting nature of Mr. Garrett's lecture and particularly with the explanatory notes from local circumstances. The slides were evidently of a very superior quality, but, unfortunately, the lantern was out of order, and the light could not be called brilliant. He hoped for better success in 1908. He confessed, with a feeling of shame, that year after year he observed the number of heads of colleges and schools attending the distribution of prizes at Queen's College, yet he was unable to be present at the distribution of prizes at other schools. He hoped they would accept his explanation that up to prize-day he was, without exaggeration, tied to his office. (Applause). The speaker then welcomed his Excellency to the College, adding that he knew education formed an important part of his Excellency's policy and from his official correspondence he had made it quite clear that he had the best interest of Queen's College at heart. (Applause).

HIS EXCELLENCY'S SPEECH.

When the applause had subsided, his Excellency, who had been a very careful listener to every word Dr. Bateson Wright uttered, addressed the gathering. He said that the Colony should be proud to maintain such an institution as Queen's College, which was the largest Anglo-Chinese school in the British Empire, and, he thought, the largest public school in the whole empire. He had lately, when at the prize-distribution at Ellis Kadoorie's School, referred to the status of public schools and had endeavoured to impress on the scholars the importance of that position. The boys of Queen's College—a school which had been established for forty years—his Excellency thought, knew what was meant by "public school" and also that infallible term, "Public School Form." He believed in school competition and hoped that it would be maintained in sport as well as in work with other big schools in the Colony. There were two reports published during the year on Queen's College. One was by the independent body of examiners and the other by the headmaster. The report of the independent examiners was moderately satisfactory. According to this report English and translation were good. The results of the geography examination were not so good, whilst hygiene only produced fair results. The headmaster's report, he considered, eminently satisfactory. The average attendance this year was not quite so good as that of last year, but this could be accounted for by the fact that quite a number of scholars had left school and others promoted to higher forms. This year 94 boys passed in the examination as against 82 for the previous year. His Excellency agreed with the headmaster about the value of having the whole of the examination papers examined by one person. This meant uniformity, and also that by Dr. Wright's long residence here the College secured the benefit of having one examiner year in and year out, whose statistics can be nothing but reliable. The College showed great progress in the Oxford Local Examination and he congratulated masters and boys on the success. This year Mak Kai-fuk took honours in the Junior Division of the Oxford Local Examination. This was the first time in the history of Queen's College, with one exception, that a Chinese boy took such honours. (Applause). That exception was one Chinese boy in St. Stephen's College. The headmaster, speaking generally, said that the work of the school was excellent, especially where mathematics was concerned. Sir Matthew Nathan when last at this College laid emphasis on this subject, for, he said at the time, China wanted engineers for her numerous railway undertakings.

Speaking of the Evening Continuation Classes, H.E. said they were not a portion of the school but they were there to permit of boys continuing their studies after they had left school. They were opened last year at a cost of $4,300, and the Legislative Council had agreed to spend further a sum of $8,000 this year on these classes, which were to be called the Technical Institute. He hoped that the Institute would be the great educating centre in the Colony and so enable boys to prosecute their work and so obtain good employment in the Colony, China and elsewhere. As regards the number of boys leaving College (107 last year and 93 this year), his Excellency said that it meant a loss of promising pupils; but it should be the pride of Queen's College to know that it sent men into the world to assist in guiding the destinies of China.

Several days ago he paid a visit to the Viceroy of Canton and he was delighted to find that one of his principal officials was an old Queen's College boy and master. After addressing a few congratulatory remarks to Dr. Wright on his work, and a few words to the boys on behaviour, his Excellency reminded the ladies and gentlemen present that they were acting parties in the work of the British Empire, not only in educating the children in Hongkong, but in educating them to diffuse their knowledge on the frontiers. "If at any time there was a call on your purse for the revenue of the Colony remember that a great part of it is for education," he said. In conclusion, he hoped some day that Hongkong would become the centre of western learning in the Far East, and he also hoped to see the time when students would come to Hongkong to take their degrees. Those days were very far off, but as long as he was in Hongkong he would do his best to further education. (Applause). He wished the boys a pleasant holiday and a happy New Year. (Loud applause).

The prizes were then distributed.

THE PRIZE LIST.

The following scholars gained prizes:—

Oxford Local Examinations:—Honours (Junior) Third Class.—1 Mok Kai-fuk.

Seniors.—1 A. Arcull, A.A.

Juniors.—2 Cheung Hok-chau, 3 Tso Chak-min, 4 Wong Lam-cho.

Preliminary.—1 Clement Mok, 2 Yeung Ming-shan, 3 Tsang On-wing, 4 Wong Tai-cho, 5 Hung Kwok-chi, 6 A. R. Samy, 7 J. M. M. Remedios, 8 Leung In-wing.

Scholarships.—IA. Senior Morrison, Mok Kai-fuk; Stewart, Wong Lam-cho; Senior Belilios, Wong Ping-chiu; Blake, Ng Shuk-kon; Wright, Tso Chak-min.

IIA. Ho Tung, Ng Ka-pui. Ho Kam-tong, U Wing-tok.

IIIA. Junior Belilios, Tai Tung-pui. Ho Fook, Wong Ping-on.

IVA. Junior Morrison, Ip Yuk-fan; Alfred May, Chan Cheuk-hoi.

Special Prize.—Machell Prize, Y. Abbas. Pupil Teachers, Leung Wing-wai.

Translation: E.-C. and C.-E., Cheung Hok-chau.

History:—IA. Tsang Kun-sham, IB. Chan Kwan, IIA. Tsu Chim-foz, IIB. Ho Sik-fai, IIIA. Yeung Pui-fung B. Tsang Shui-ting, A. She Chu, D. Luk Shui-hi.

Composition.—IA. Ivo Chun-yut, B. J. Ezekiel, IIA. Mok Ku-foo, B. Chan Lam-hing, IIIA. Chau Kwok-ying, B. Wong Hon, C. Lo Siu-hok, D. F. Gutierrez.

Class Prizes.

IA.—Mok Kai-fuk, Cheung Hok-chau, Wong Lam-cho, Tso Chak-min, Yeung Chak-pak.

IB.—Pang Kam-wing, Li Luo-kwai.

IIA.—Ng Ka-pui (Scholar), Fung Tsz-king, U Wing-tok (Scholar), Mok Kiu-fan.

IIB.—Wong Po-keung, Chan Un-chim.

IIIA.—Tai Tung-pui (Belilios S.), U Yik-kwai, U Shun.

IIIB.—Wong Ping-hon (Ho Fook S.), Ng Shiu-hung, Wong Hon.

IIIC.—Lau Chiu-wo, Lo Shiu-hok.

IIID.—Wong Ka-tsip, Chak Chiu-hang.

IVA.—Ip Yuk-fan, Fung Iu-wa, Wong Shiu-kwong.

IVB.—1 Ng Shuk-i, 2 Sung Lui-mui.

IVC.—1 Chan U-chiu, 2 Yan Ki-chan.

IVD.—1 Lo Chiu-ming, 2 Ho Ling-fan.

IVE.—1 U Ting, 2 Tong Kun-sheung.

VA.—1 Kato, 2 Yeung Shun-hang.

VB.—1 M. F. Ubaldo, 2 Lau Wai-chi.

VC.—1 Chik Yam-kwong, 2 Wong Po-kai.

VD.—1 Cheng Fat, 2 Lo Yeung-tak.

VE.—1 Chau Fat, 2 Kwok So.

VIA.—1 Ng Ka-yung, 2 Tam Sik-hung.

VIB.—1 Ho Sui-miow, 2 Lo Chuk-in.

VIC.—1 Leung Ping-ki, 2 So Tsung-tsoi.

VIIA.—Chiu Kang-ü, Chü Hin-loi.

VIIB.—Kwok Tsun, Wan Mau-hing.

VIIC.—To Chak-wan, Au Yung.

Prize-holders in Vernacular School.

5A1	Chui Chik-fan	IVC
A2	Fung Shiu-i	IVC
A3	She I-on	VA
5B1	Wong Ying-yuk	VB
B2	Lau Wai-chi	VB
B3	Pun Shiu	VE
5C	Kwok Tsz-hau	VIB
4A	Wong Kwai-chau	IVC
B	Lo Yeung-tak	VD
C	Ho Sung-yuk	IVA
3A	Lo Ching-ming	IVD
B	Li Tsok-jün	VB
C	Lo Tsung-man	VIIC
2C	Chung Kwong-ha	VIIC
1C	To Kam-hing	VIIC

This ended, Dr. Wright thanked his Excellency for his attendance and assured him that his advice would be followed. Cheers were then called for and the gathering adjourned to the compound to witness some gymnastic exercises which were gone through by Chinese boys.

MESSRS. NORONHA & CO., with considerable expedition, have issued the Race Book for the forthcoming races in February. Besides the complete list of entires the book contains tabulated records of previous winners and other information of interest to frequenters of the local turf. The only edition authorized by the Hongkong Jockey Club is that issued by the Club's printers, Messrs. Noronha & Co., and so as to place the book within the reach of all attending the race carnival next month, Messrs. Noronha are advertising a specially cheap edition in paper covers, at 50 cents a copy, with a view of underselling the pirated compilations usually hawked by unscrupulous publishers.

THE CANTON MEDICAL MISSIONARY SOCIETY.

THE SIXTY-NINTH ANNUAL MEETING.

The sixty-ninth annual general meeting of the Canton Medical Missionary Society was held at Canton in the Club Theatre, Shameen, on Thursday, the 16th January, 1908.

There were present: Rev. R. H. Graves, M.D., D.D., president (in the chair), Rev E. Z. Simmons, D.D., Dr. R. O. Davenport, Dr. J. Webb Anderson, Messrs. T. D. Moorhead, J. Stirling, C. S. Paget, Rev R. E. Chambers, Rev W. Dawson and about 45 members of the Society.

After the notice convening the meeting had been read the Rev. Dr. Greene opened the meeting with prayer.

The minutes of the last special meeting were read and approved.

REPORT OF THE MANAGING COMMITTEE.

The following report was presented by Dr Davenport, the secretary of the managing committee:—Your committee is glad to report that the general working of the Hospital has been carried on to their satisfaction. The difficulties which have been met have been overcome, and some progress has been made. It notes with pleasure the increase among the women patients for the year, for 702 women have been registered as being in residence. This is the largest number yet reported in one year. In spite of the many changes in the teaching staff of the College, and the unfortunate breakdown in health of Dr. Anton Anderson and his enforced retirement from the staff, the work of the medical school has gone on without serious interruption. On the whole the students have worked with commendable diligence. It would be to the advantage of the school if permanent residences for students could be provided on the Society's ground. Visits of inspection have been made during the year, and buildings and grounds generally have been found in good order. It was noted, however, that the women's ward, the oldest building on the premises, was giving at one end and that the roof was unsafe. Your Committee was forced by these conditions to take immediate action, and after due and careful consideration decided to strengthen the walls, add a sorely needed third storey, and re-roof the entire building. This work is now well in hand, and is being well done. This has meant a sudden, heavy demand on the Society's funds, but it is earnestly hoped that friends will not allow the Society to be hampered in its valuable work by any scarcity of funds. During the past year the imperfections of the Society's Constitution, owing largely to the dual control of the foreign members of the staff, were emphasised, and it was deemed necessary to call a special general meeting which was held on October 24th, to carry into effect the revised Constitution, and consequently overcome many difficulties and place the institution on a more stable basis under the control of the managing committee of the Society. An opportunity to permanently engage the services of Mrs. J. Ings as head nurse at the hospital has been approved, and definite arrangements have now been made by which Mrs. Ings will be connected with the hospital. Doctors Todd and Boyd have been withdrawn from the hospital by the Canton Station of the American Presbyterian Mission.

HOSPITAL REPORT.

The annual report for the hospital was laid on the table by Dr. Swan, who read the following abstract of its contents:—The work of the hospital, which has been a large factor in impressing on the Chinese the character of Western beneficence and Christianity, has been continued without interruption the past year. Foreign medical work is undoubtedly still opening the way for a better understanding between the Chinese and the outer world, and the methods of western surgery are becoming increasingly popular. The attendance of patients has been large, notwithstanding many new centres established by foreign trained native physicians. The following total statistics are taken from the hospital records:—

	Out-patients (visits).	In-patients.	Surgical operations
Men	13,742	1,246	612
Women	7,826	700	421
	20,568	1,946	1,033

The extraction of teeth and opening of small abcesses have not been included in the number of surgical operations given as above. The latter part of the year it was found that one of the main hospital buildings required immediate and extensive repairs, including a new roof. It has stood for forty years without large additions or repairs. The managing committee authorised the work, including enlargement, being carried out at once, and this is being efficiently done under the supervision of Messrs. Purnell and Paget, architects. The building when complete will accommodate forty-four more beds than it formerly held. Mrs. J. Ings has been added to the hospital staff and is at the head of the nursing department. She has, by her skilful work, contributed largely to the success of important surgical operations, and is a most valuable addition to our working force.

On the motion of Mr. Stanton, seconded by Dr. Simons, the report as read was adopted.—*Contributed.*

THE SHANGHAI TRAMWAYS.

The construction of the Shanghai Tramways has been practically completed. The cars for the service have all arrived in Shanghai and most of them have been put together. All that is now awaited is the current to supply the motive power for the trams. Two or three weeks must then elapse before the service is inaugurated, as, in order to minimize the risks of accident, the Company desires to make the native drivers thoroughly efficient before the trams are allowed to traverse the busy streets of the Settlement. The current, it is expected, will be switched on in about a fortnight's time and the drivers will be trained up and down Avenue Road, a convenient thoroughfare for the purpose, owing to its proximity to the car shed and the comparatively light traffic in the neighbourhood. Had current been available it would have been possible to open portions of the route several weeks ago.

The terms of the tramway concession are too well-known to need repetition here. Obtained by Messrs. Bruce, Peebles and Co., under an agreement signed on October 10, 1905, the concession was taken over and financed by the Shanghai Electric Construction Co., for whom the original concessionaires have done the actual work of construction. The work of the contractors has been supervised by Mr. W. R. Wright, as representative of the Company's consulting engineers, and the cables have been supplied by Callender's Cable Company. Upwards of twenty-three miles of track have now been laid, and little remains to be done but to complete the overhead cable work on the new Garden Bridge and the Chekiang Road Bridge, both of which structures are rapidly nearing completion.

SOME NOVEL FEATURES.

Shanghai possesses some advantages over other cities for the operation of a tramways service; the flatness of the Settlement eliminates the principal cause of tramway accidents and reduces the amount of current required. But there are drawbacks also. The narrowness of the streets has necessitated the laying of a narrow-gauge line, and consequently there will not be passenger accommodation on the top of the trams. Thus there are no precedents to guide the administration in inaugurating the service. This will lead to the introduction of some novel features. For instance, the tram-routes have been divided into numbered sections, and the tickets, instead of bearing the names of the termini as each route, will merely bear numbers corresponding to these sections. The same tickets will be used all over the routes, the conductor punching a hole opposite to the number of the sections over which the passenger is entitled to travel. The sections on each route are posted in conspicuous place in each car, and printed in English and Chinese. They will be:

Bund (Astor House, or the Club) to Defence Creek; Defence Creek to Carter Road; Carter Road to Bubbling Well; Carter Road to Chafoo Road; Chafoo Road to Railway Station; Bund (Shanghai Club) to Astor House; Astor House to Muirhead Road; Muirhead Road to Lay Road; Lay Road to Yangtzepoo Terminus; Astor House to Range Road; Range Road to Rifle Range.

For all these sections the first-class fare will be five cents. The fare for two sections is ten cents and so on. The longest route is from the Club to Yangtzepoo, for which the first-class fare will be twenty cents.

The drivers and conductors will be Chinese, but at least twice on each journey cars will be visited by foreign inspectors. An elaborate system for checking the issue of tickets has been arranged, and there will be a kiosk at each terminus to accommodate a clerk, whose business will include the timing of the cars, etc. The frequency of the service will depend upon the demand; the Company is prepared to put on five minute services when and where it is necessary. Double rails are laid along the principal thoroughfares, and where the cars travel backwards and forwards on single rails there are loops, at short intervals, within sight of each other. Shanghai's freedom from fogs removes the principal inconvenience experienced where single tracks have been laid.

THE DEPOT.

A large car depôt has been erected at the junction of the Hart and Great Western Roads. The sheds are built of galvanised iron, and the trams enter the various doors over a network of rails and under a network of wires. Corrugated steel doors, mounted on rollers, close each entrance when necessary. Entering the depôt last Saturday, our representative found it literally full of cars. Sixty-four trams had been erected, and the last car was being put together. Between each pair of rails in the shed there are pits to enable the staff to inspect the mechanism of the cars from below. Each with its new coat of red paint, the trams looked serviceable and comfortable. The terms of the concession do not allow of any exterior disfigurement with advertisements. The cars are mounted on four wheels, each pair of which is geared to a motor. These are driving platforms at both ends, equipped with Messrs. Bruce, Peebles' K 1 type controllers, handbrakes, automatic switches, a foot-gong, sand-cock and life-guard release. The life-guards, which are of the Hudson Bowring type, are immediately under the driving platforms. A wooden gate, known as a feeler, hangs to within a few inches of the rails, and should it meet with any obstruction across the rails, swing back and releases a scoop, which drops across the metals and picks up the obstruction, whether it be a body or a big stone. There are sand boxes under the seats, which are also operated by the driver, and enable the wheels to grip when the line is slippery. Each car is divided into two compartments, to seat twelve first and twenty second-class passengers respectively. The seats in the first-class compartment are covered with rattan; those in the second class are of wood. A sliding door separates the two classes. A flexible cord, connected with a bell on the driving platform, runs through the interior and enables the conductor to signal to the driver. On both the driving platforms there are "lazy tong" steel gates, which can be closed to prevent passengers entering or leaving on the wrong side. The cars are provided with side windows and sun-shutters, small upper windows and roof ventilators all of which can be thrown open to allow a through current of air during the hot weather. The destination of each car is shown by a transparent roller-blind in front, bearing English and Chinese characters, which is set on each journey. Notices in English, French and Chinese warn passengers against smoking, spitting, or bringing dogs on board. It is to be hoped that the second rule will be strictly enforced. The route each car will take will further be indicated at night by coloured slides over one of the headlights. The interior of the roof and the smaller windows will be used for advertising purposes. The motors are arranged in series and in parallel, so that should one of them break down the car could still make its way back to the depôt. Moreover, a portable telephone is carried, by means of which communication can be established with headquarters through one of the numerous junction boxes. The trams also carry an emergency repair outfit, including rubber gloves and a few simple tools. Should the handbrakes fail, the trams can be brought up in half their own length by the electric brakes. For starting the cars there are three resistance grids beneath. Each tram, complete, weighs about ten tons.

The car shed also contains a repair shop, fitted with a hydraulic ram, with a pressure of eight tons to the square inch—for removing and replacing tyres—a motor, lathes and other machinery. Mention should also be made of an electric air-compressor for blowing out the motor cases of the cars.

The remainder of the accommodation in the sheds is devoted to store-rooms, a strong room, waiting rooms for the staff, and offices for the traffic superintendent and his assistants. Residences for the foreign staff are building in the vicinity.

The actual date of the opening of the tram service has not yet been decided. It is expected that the current will be ready in a fortnight's time, and two or three weeks later, when the drivers have mastered their duties, the trams may be expected to make their appearance in the streets of the Settlement.—*N. C. D. News.*

THE *N. C. D. News* of 17th inst. says:—In connection with the arrest of the steamer *Mexri King* and the shipment by her of coolies to Mexico, we have ascertained that some time ago the Chinese Minister to Washington complained to his Government that coolies were being shipped to Mexico, where they were employed on railway construction work. The Chinese Government ordered an investigation to be made and as a result one of the contractors for the supply of the coolies was imprisoned at Harbin. The second Chinese contractor was in Mexico with the coolies at the time. It is stated that Chinese authorities endeavoured to place the blame on Messrs. Zimmerman & Co., but after a careful investigation they withdrew from this position and not only exonerated Messrs. Zimmerman & Co., but consented to award them compensation for the shortage in the labour supplied by the contractors. The contract was to supply 1,000 coolies and 1,000 were shipped to Mexico. It is said that only 400 odd boys (these men could have passed as 18 and 19 years of age) could have been passed at Harbin without the local Chinese officials being aware of the facts.

HONGKONG'S SUBSIDIARY CURRENCY.

RECOMMENDATIONS BY COMMITTEE OF INQUIRY.

GREAT DIVERGENCE OF OPINION.

MATTER TO BE DISCUSSED BY EXECUTIVE AND LEGISLATIVE COUNCILS.

At the meeting of the Legislative Council last Thursday afternoon the report of the Subsidiary Coin Committee was laid on the table as sessional paper No. 1 of 1908. The minority report and minutes by the Governor were incorporated in the same paper. As this vexed question of the subsidiary coinage of the Colony is of general interest we reproduce in the present issue as much of the paper as will afford a clear conception of the difficulties surrounding any scheme for the reform of the local subsidiary currency. The draft Bill referred to in the majority report (A) for want of space and time, has been omitted:—

THE GOVERNOR'S MINUTE.

OBJECT OF COMMITTEE.

The object of appointing a Committee is not only to advise Government on the steps to be taken, but also to dispose of impracticable proposals by pointing out why they are impracticable, and so to put an end to controversy by the weight attaching to the opinion of so representative a body of public and expert opinion.

PRESENT PROPOSALS.

2. Some of the courses suggested, with the arguments advanced against them, are very briefly as follows:—

(*a.*) That Hongkong subsidiary coinage being in excess of currency demands should be gradually withdrawn: (*a*) By exporting all received by Government as revenue within the limits of legal tender; (*b*) By purchasing and exporting additional coins as revenue permits.

Arguments:—Assuming that Hongkong coins are thus rehabilitated will this benefit trade even though it benefits revenue (by decreasing the discount on subsidiary coins received as revenue) since subsidiary Chinese coins flow into the Colony and form a medium of exchange, even though not legal tender? Some maintain that withdrawal would stimulate the influx of Chinese coins and if these are debased other hold that they would oust the better coinage. Others again think that as Hongkong coins would be worth more here than in Canton they would be attracted here. If Hongkong coins were rehabilitated the economic position of Hongkong *vis-à-vis* Canton would be improved, and debased coin might cease to be accepted?—or be heavily discounted.

(*b.*) That Hongkong subsidiary coins should be made unlimited legal tender and Government should redeem at par.

Arguments:—A Government pledge would be necessary or the currency would fall to the intrinsic value of the subsidiary coins? Result would be that the dollar would be finally ousted and subsidiary coins would be the dollars there are insufficient dollars to redeem with. The Government liability would be unknown and enormous, as all Hongkong coins in Canton would be collected and sent here? There is no obligation on Government to take so drastic a step as it only imported coins in accordance with the demand at the time.

(*c.*) That paper money should be issued in accordance Mr. Mansfield's proposals. Enclosure 1.

Arguments:—That such a proposal could not be adopted until all Hongkong coins had been redeemed?

(*d.*) That importation and circulation of Chinese coins should be made illegal—*vide* Straits Ordinance.

Arguments:—That this would dislocate trade with China which is essential to Hongkong. That the Chinese might retaliate; that it would cause great discontent among the Chinese here; would lead to an excessive number of prosecutions; that it would constitute an arbitrary interference with the rights of the individual to part with his goods for whatever consideration he likes; that though importation may be prohibited possession or circulation cannot be unless it is fraudulently tendered (*e.g.*, debased or spurious coins) and that it would amount to confiscation of private property which is admissible only if the article is deleterious to morals or dangerous (*e.g.*, liquor, arms, opium, &c.). Prohibition of importation is impracticable in a free port and without special and costly preventive services?

(*e.*) That the remedy lies in hands of individuals, who should refuse Chinese coins or accept only at heavy discount.

Argument:—That a complete boycott is not feasible and if partial the firm refusing drives custom to its rivals. In any case custom is lost.

(*f.*) That nothing should be done, and that subsidiary coins will then depreciate to the extent of their difference in bullion value from the dollar and remain stationary? It will then no longer pay the Canton mint to coin them.

Argument:—That depreciation is largely due to temporary causes which will right themselves?

ACTION OF CHINA.

3. As the action of China is the originating cause of this difficulty, it would be well for the Committee to record their view as to what course of action it is desirable and practicable to urge on Peking,—not being contrary to the interests of that Government—*vide* Minute attached. The argument there set out is I believe endorsed by Sir T. Jackson. If a new coinage is issued it must of course be of intrinsically less value than bar silver to avoid melting, and subsidiary coins should not be more than 2% less than dollars? As a new Viceroy is expected shortly it is advisable that this Government should decide exactly what it considers that it is practicable to urge. Enclosure 2.

Arguments:—That subsidiary coin is only a token and if made of the same proportionate weight and fineness as the standard it might be melted down at any time according as value of bullion fluctuated and thus involve great loss to Government. *Per contra*. It is urged that both the standard and subsidiary silver coins should have sufficient alloy to prevent their rising above bullion value.

That proportionate weight and fineness in India of silver coins less in value than the rupee is the same as the rupee,—but, on the other hand it is argued that the rupee itself is no longer the standard and is now itself a subsidiary coin.

PROCEEDINGS.

4. The proceedings of the committee need not, I think, be private,—but their recommendations should obviously be confidential until Government has decided upon the course of action it proposes to adopt.

It will be for the committee to decide how far they can make their meetings open to the public without endangering free discussion and interchange of opinion. The object may perhaps be attained by a précis of the discussion of each day being communicated to the Press. Care will be taken to keep down contingent expenses (reporting, typewriting, etc.) to the lowest practicable limit.

F. D. LUGARD.

20th August, 1907.

[*Enclosure 1.*]

MR. MANSFIELD'S SUGGESTIONS.

1. That either the Government or the Banks issue fractional notes of different sizes for 50, 20, 10, and 5 cents in sufficient quantity for the requirements of the Colony. Such notes to be legal tender for any amount.

2. That a proclamation be made that from a certain fixed date no subsidiary coins of any kind can be accepted in the Government offices, all foreign enterprises issuing similar notices.

3. That the Government when that date expires undertake to repurchase for melting Hongkong subsidiary coinage at such premium over its intrinsic value as the Colony estimates it can afford. It is believed that this will have the effect of gradually drawing back to the Colony much of the Colonial coin on the nearer mainland and will have a tendency to further depreciate the Canton coins which, suffering under so many disabilities, will be likely to leave the Colony. Once the trams, sampans, chairs, rickshas and the large shops generally insist on all payments being in notes, the debased Canton currency will be at once relegated to the small Chinese shops and even from them would probably in time disappear.

The inconvenience of the very small notes is acknowledged, but Japan has or had them to as low a value as 10 sen. To obviate this in some degree the 5 cent notes might be made very thin and be bound in little books of 20 like the ricksha tickets in Shanghai. After being torn out, however, the loose ones should be redeemable at once at some special office. Arrangement should also be made that all dirty and ragged fractional notes passing through the Government offices and Banks should be destroyed and new ones issued in their stead.

The argument that the Government is to blame for the excessive issue of subsidiary coinage and cannot therefore in justice demonetise it, is in some sense specious, but it will not hold water. It implies that the Government knowingly and for the sake of profit flooded Hongkong and the mainland with subsidiary coinage, but this was not the case. To the writer's own knowledge, and the fact will be borne out by the Treasury archives, before the opening of the Chinese mints it was found impossible to keep in Hongkong sufficient subsidiary coinage for local use, and the Home Government grudgingly supplied perhaps a quarter of the amounts indented for, so that the Colony was always on short commons, which the public greatly resented. The ports of Shanghai, Foochow, Amoy, Swatow and many others would have taken enormous quantities of the coinage if the Banks could have obtained them from the Treasury. They met a very obvious want in China, which should have been supplied long ago by that country. It is estimated that some 43 million dollars worth of coins were issued, but it must be remembered that those are scattered over many thousands of square miles, and the writer does not believe that one-tenth of that amount will ever return to Hongkong even though a good premium were offered for them.

[*Enclosure 2.*]

EXTRACT FROM MEMO. BY SIR F. LUGARD.

(JUNE, 1907.)

It is clearly of importance as regards the future, that continual efforts should be made by H.M.B.'s Minister at Peking to urge the Chinese Government to give effect to Article II of the Mackay Convention. In this connection it seems to me that a suggestion might be made that when reforming the currency China should undertake to make all subsidiary coinage minted of the same millesimal fineness as the dollar and of equal proportional weight, *e.g.*, 10 ten-cent pieces must equal one dollar in weight, in order to abolish the disparity in bullion or intrinsic value between the two. This would do away with the existing discount, which naturally tends to approximate to the difference between the intrinsic and the face value. In order to encourage the Chinese Government to do this it might be worth while to give an undertaking that if, and when China adopted this proposal, any subsidiary British coinage issued in future should also be of the same fineness and proportionate weight as the dollar. If China could go further, and agree to re-mint the subsidiary coinage already circulated by her mints, we might undertake to do the same. The advantage thus made would be great, and assuming that not more than 20 million dollars worth of Hongkong subsidiary coinage is still in circulation, the cost of redeeming and replacing it would not be an excessive price to pay for the benefit.

Treasury,
Hongkong, 6th November, 1907.

Sir,—As chairman of the committee appointed to inquire into the matter of the condition of the subsidiary coinage of the Colony I have the honour to transmit for consideration of the overnment the following documents, viz:—

A.—Report of four members.

B.—Draft Bill suggested in paragraph 14 thereof.

C.—Notes on the Governor's minute of the 20th August, 1907.

D.—Report by Mr. J. Armstrong.

E.—Note by the Hon. Mr. E. Osborne who had left the Colony before the third meeting.

F.—Report by three members of the committee.

G.—Reporter's notes of proceedings at the three meetings held. [Not printed.]

I may add that it would only mean an interim-be controversy, as the signatories to Report A were to reply to the comments of the signatories to Report F on the former.—I have, etc.,

A. M. THOMSON,
Treasurer.

The Honourable
The Colonial Secretary,
&c., &c., &c.

THE MAJORITY REPORT.

We the undersigned members of the committee have the honour to report as follows:—

1. Subsidiary coinage is solely for the purpose of the internal retail trade and other small transactions within the Colony.

2. It is true that in past years the Hongkong subsidiary coinage played a considerable part in the trade with Canton, but judging from the trouble that has arisen in the last two years it would appear to have been an economic mistake to have directed it from its true purpose.

3. Just what quantity may from time to time be required is a matter of experience, but the chief test is the value of the coin in the open market.

4. It may however be taken that $5 per head is sufficient in a community whose standard coin is $1 and where the legal limit of tender is $2.

5. Taking roughly the population of the Colony at 400,000 it would, therefore, appear that a total of $2,000,000 at any one time is sufficient and assuming that the life of a coin is 20 years (which owing to past circumstances cannot yet be verified) a supply of $100,000 a year would be ample under present circumstance.

6. The issue outstanding during the last 40 years is $30,000,000 of which about $30,000,000 were issued in the ten years prior to 1905 and the coinage has been during the past two years at a discount varying from 9 per cent. to 4 per cent.

7. From these facts it may be justly inferred that there is in existence under present circumstances a large over-issue of Hongkong subsidiary coinage.

8. For reasons unnecessary to state in detail it is obvious that it is desirable to rehabilitate the currency of the Colony and it only remains to consider the best practicable means for this purpose.

9. There is no necessity to demonetise the existing currency as any scheme for the substitution of a new coinage must necessarily prove more expensive than the rehabilitation of the present coinage unless, indeed, it is proposed to repudiate a proportion of the latter, a course which is most objectionable as tending to lower the credit and honour of the Colony.

10. One of the circumstances of the present depressed condition of the subsidiary coin is notoriously the excessive circulation in the Colony of small coins struck at the Canton Mint.

11. These do not really constitute a subsidiary coinage as there is no legal standard in existence to which they are subsidiary, but are simply an imitation of the currency of the Colony manufactured by a local Government utterly ignorant of the first principles of political economy in regard to currency. The "par" value of these coins is therefore simply and solely their value as bullion.

12. From a political point of view it would be desirable to exclude this alien coinage which is to a certain extent responsible for the depression in the market value of the Colony's money.

13. Also, from the retail point of view at all events, there can be no objection to its exclusion on commercial grounds provided that a supply of Hongkong coinage is maintained, and there is no evidence to show that any loss or damage would occur to international trade on account of such exclusion.

14. Taking this last point first it is advised that an ordinance be put into force giving the Governor-in-Council the powers already conferred on the Governor-in-Council of the Straits Settlements, with a view to the prohibition of the import and circulation of all alien subsidiary coinage whatever (imitation or other), with the exception of the Chinese Cash, (which, however, might possibly be considered a standard, and not a subsidiary coin).

15. It is understood that at present Government is now withdrawing from circulation all subsidiary coin received as revenue and that the Secretary of State has been recommended to permit the redemption at market value of a sum not to exceed $1,000,000 yearly.

16. We approve of this course, (which, however, will be a failure unless prohibition is enforced), provided that, when the coinage reaches par value, redemption should be stopped and a reserve of coin be kept in the Colony so as to prevent a shortage in the supply and avoid the possibility of the coinage being at a premium. As an additional precaution the export of Hongkong coin might be prohibited. Application for coin from such reserve should be strictly kept down to a maximum for each application.

17. It is recommended that, whatever course of action be adopted by Government, due notice be given to all parties concerned except perhaps in the case of the import of alien coins. If any hardship arose in particular instances due consideration would be given to such.

18. It does not appear that there would be any advantage to the Colony to attempt to come to agreements on this question with the authorities either at Canton or Peking.

19. Until China has properly initiated a currency in accordance with economic principles, no proper agreement is even possible and it is always probable that if one were entered into it would be evaded or abrogated according as profit therefrom might accrue to the authorities concerned.

20. The regulation of its subsidiary coinage is purely an internal affair of the Colony and it would appear to be, at least, undignified for this Government to rely on assistance from a Foreign Power to ensure its rehabilitation even if such assistance were practicable and forthcoming.

21. Whatever the Government can do, however, to urge the inception of a proper currency in China should be done.

A. M. THOMSON, Chairman.
ROBT. SHEWAN.
A. J. RAYMOND.
WEI A YUK.

26th October, 1907.

REPLY OF THE 4 MEMBERS WHO SIGNED "A."

[Notes on Governor's Minute of 20th August, 1907.]

Para. 2.

(*a.*) See Report A.

(*b.*) This would result in the exclusion of the dollar and the acceptance of the debased coinage as the standard of the Colony at its true value say 11 per cent. discount.

(*c.*) Mr. Mansfield's proposals involves repudiation which cannot be recommended.

The note issue would involve great trouble and expense.

If made unlimited legal tender the subsidiary coinage would become the standard of the Colony.

(*d.*) See Report A.

(*e.*) The community has already been informed by a public notification as to the true value of Canton coin.

(*f.*) The Canton mint may always be ready to issue whenever the price makes it profitable. The variation in the internal exchange of the Colony makes it imperative for the Government to take every practicable step towards rehabilitation.

Para. 3. The standard in any country is practically worth only its bullion value. The more alloy therefore the lower the value of the standard.

The rupee is supposed to be exchangeable in India at the rate of 15 to the £. This price is far above its bullion value and it must therefore be in these circumstances considered a subsidiary coin, or token.

Re Enclosure 2. It is essential to a currency that the subsidiary coin cannot be of the same bullion value proportionately as the standard coin otherwise it would cease to be a subsidiary coinage in the true sense.

A so-called subsidiary coinage of the same value as the standard would entail a large initial expense with constant recurrence, and is unnecessary if the present coinage is rehabilitated.

It is perfectly certain that China would never listen to the proposal.

A. M. T.
R. S.
A. J. R.
W. A YUK.

D.

REPORT BY MR. J. ARMSTRONG.

I think it is desirable to prohibit the importation of Chinese subsidiary coin without a permit from the Government.

Subsidiary coin is used principally for internal circulation: it is only the medium of exchange for goods to a small extent: sellers of silk in Canton insist on payment being made in Hongkong currency; if sellers of sugar, etc, here are willing to accept Chinese subsidiary coin in payment, that is their affair, and their refusal to do so would in no way prejudice our general business relations with Canton.

It is proved without doubt that the bulk of the Chinese subsidiary coin now circulating in the Colony has not been brought here for the purpose of buying goods, but by speculators who buy the coin in Canton at a discount with money they remit from here which they also get at a discount and are able to circulate the coin here at a profit.

While I agree to the proposal to approach the Chinese Government either direct or through our Minister in Peking, I think it most desirable that the Government should act independently and at once, as undoubtedly time will be lost in approaching the officials in Peking.

I therefore recommend that the Government prohibit the importation of all coins not being legal tender in this Colony, except with a permit.

J. A.

30th October, 1907.

The following Note is by the Hon. Mr. E. Osborne who had left the Colony before the third meeting:—

I agree entirely with the Chairman's Memorandum, as being the only practical solution of the difficulty, and consider that the Colony should either protect its currency or else relinquish it altogether, and do what Shanghai, Hankow and other commercial centres do.

At the same time, I recognise that if the Chinese Government will withdraw from circulation some of the coins already in existence and promise to regulate its future issues so as to maintain the value of its small coin, the difficulty solves itself without any action on our part, and for that reason I would support Mr. Law's resolutions provided a time limit (say 6 months) be added, at the expiration of which, if the Chinese have accomplished nothing, it is agreed that the Chairman's recommendations be adopted.

EDWARD OSBORNE.

14th October, 1907.

THE MINORITY REPORT.

We the undersigned members of the committee appointed by His Excellency the Governor to inquire into the causes of the depreciation of the subsidiary coinage of the Colony and to advise as to what means can be taken, with due regard to the interests of trade, to rehabilitate such coinage, while admitting that the amount of British subsidiary coin, as estimated by the chairman of the committee to exist in Hongkong, is probably sufficient for the requirements of the Colony cannot admit that it is desirable, in the first instance, to take any action that might result in the further depreciation of the subsidiary coinage of the Two Kwang provinces as these coins form the chief, if not the only, medium of payment by the consumers of goods bought and exported from Hongkong for use in these provinces.

The trade of Hongkong is so closely connected with that of the Two Kwang provinces that any attempt to rehabilitate the Colony's subsidiary coinage by restricting or prohibiting under penalties the use of Canton coins in Hongkong, as provided for in the proposed Ordinance submitted by the chairman, would in the opinion of the undersigned bring about a further depreciation of these coins and might lead to financial disabilities, if not to measures of retaliation by the Canton authorities, adversely affecting the trade of the Colony.

It is, therefore, advised by the undersigned that the Government of Hongkong should—

1. Impress on the Imperial Chinese Government through the usual official channels the urgent necessity of China reforming her Currency in terms of the Mackay Treaty.

2. Enter into negotiation with the Imperial Chinese Government through H. B.M.'s Minister at Peking with a view to arriving at an agreement whereby the Chinese Imperial Government undertakes:—

(*a.*) to discontinue the output of subsidiary coin from the Canton Mint until such time as both Hongkong and Canton subsidiary coins reach par value, (which in opinion of the undersigned they will do very soon under these circumstances);

and (*b.*) In consideration of the Hongkong Government agreeing not to issue more subsidiary coin except for the Colony's own use, to only mint new subsidiary coins sufficient to meet the public demand so as to maintain the face value of their coins at par.

The undersigned further desire to recommend to the Government that the second proposal should be taken in hand first, and they respectfully suggest that a capable official of the Colony be seconded without delay to proceed to Peking to furnish H.B.M.'s Minister with detailed information during the negotiations.

In the event of the negotiations being without result the undersigned recommend that the Committee be called together again six months hence to further deliberate.

A copy of the chairman's report, which has been supplied to us, is attached bearing our annotation.

D. R. LAW.
A. G. WOOD.
J. R. M. SMITH.

Hongkong, 5th November, 1907.

MINUTE BY HIS EXCELLENCY THE GOVERNOR.

Hon. Colonial Secretary,

* * * * * *

As you will see from my Memo., I desire the Committee to meet once again and give somewhat fuller explanation on points raised. My questions are chiefly on points not I hope the Chairman will confine discussion to them and take them seriatim, and that the minority will record their view even where they do not agree with the majority. When I have the committee's reply to this memo.—which I think can be quickly answered—I will consider the question in Executive Council. The memo. should be printed and distributed, so that each member may consider the points and come to the meeting with his views clear on each issue.

F. D. L.

7th November, 1907.

The memo. referred to in the foregoing minute is as follows:—

The papers submitted consist of recommendations by four members (which I will call the majority report), of a second set of recommendations (the minority report) and separate notes by two members (the independents). I will take the principal recommendations and endeavour to shew where divergence or concensus of opinion was expressed, and in what particulars Government would desire fuller information.

I.—ACTION AS REGARDS CHINA.

The majority report oppose any agreements with Peking or Canton (para. 18) while the majority [? minority.—Ed., *H.K.T.*] report is strongly in favour of negotiation and thinks it would be effective. Both independents are in favour of negotiation, Mr. Armstrong qualifying this by urging that action should not be delayed pending the result of such efforts, and Mr. Osborne desiring a time limit of six months. Although the majority report is opposed to negotiation para. 22 of the chairman's memo. on which the report is based says that Government should take whatever steps are possible to urge China to reform her currency. There is in any case a majority in favour of negotiation,—on the lines I presume of the minority report? The latter with Mr. Osborne desire to defer any action for six months till the result is known. The majority with Mr. Armstrong would desire to take action independently of the negotiations. There is thus a majority of one for the latter course.

Note.—Are the negotiations with Peking merely to urge the fulfilment of the vague undertaking contained in Art. II of the Mackay Treaty? or does the committee suggest that we should urge that all Provincial Mints should be under central control, their output limited, and their coinage uniform in weight, fineness, and face value. Or that a gold standard should be urged, or any other proposals? I do not think that at this stage it would be useful or possible to second an officer to go to Peking. As regards Canton the proposals of the minority report are clear. In the minutes of meetings other points were raised. Is it suggested that the Viceroy should be asked to withdraw any of the coins now in circulation? I assume not. Should he (as suggested) be asked to coin and issue dollars?

II.—PROHIBITION.—IMPORT, EXPORT, AND CIRCULATION.

The majority report recommends prohibition, and I assume from para. 14 that the draft Bill submitted (which I have not seen before) is the approximate form which they desire that the Legislature should take. Mr. Osborne agrees with them, but would defer action for six months. Mr. Armstrong agrees to prohibit import (but says nothing about export or circulation—does he agree regarding these?) except under permit which is provided in sec. 6 (3) of the draft Bill.

He suggests a course, *viz.*, licences to be granted on application without restriction with a view to proving that the import is not solely or chiefly from Canton, and that it is done by money changers and money lenders who do not affect trade. In the latter view Mr. Osborne concurred. Mr. Armstrong's remedy apparently is that Government should fix a rate of exchange and establish a Bureau. This in effect is that he is opposed to prohibition and sides with the minority, which appears clear from his remarks on page 9 of meeting 3. His licence system really amounts only to registration of imports as in opium, &c. The votes on this subject are therefore 5 for and 4 against.

There is therefore a majority in favour of prohibition. (This was opposed emphatically in the minority report on the grounds that trade would suffer, and that Hongkong is too intimately associated with South China to render it possible for us to exclude Chinese coin, which would depreciate Chinese coins.)

Note.—The practical difficulties in enforcing such legislation were hardly sufficiently debated. The proposal may be divided into 4 heads,—are all equally practicable and equally useful? If not, which should be tried first, and with what inital modifications?

(*a.*) Import of Chinese subsidiary coins.—In what way do those members who described the provisions of sec. 6 as too drastic suggest that the restriction should bear less hardly, otherwise than by reduction of penalties? Since the majority recommend this course what modifications or tentative measures would the signatories of the minority report suggest? To what extent do the majority consider that permits should at first be issued? Should there be a licence fee? If it is true that Chinese subsidiary coins are largely imported by lenders or changers for discount profit would not a very heavy licence fee for import in bulk be justified and useful? Would such a fee be sufficient in itself to check over-large imports without resorting to prohibition at first?

(*b.*) Import of coins which are legal tender.—Refusal to admit our own coins would seem to amount to repudiation, against which the Committee is unanimous (see note of minority on para. 9 of majority report). Some members suggested a five years period of grace after which there should be repudiation. I understand this proposal was abandoned by all? It must be remembered that we have made a profit of two millions on putting these coins into circulation. In view of these remarks are the committee prepared to withdraw these words from the draft Bill? Of course, restrictions on import of Hongkong coins could be temporarily withdrawn if more such coins were required in order to replace the Chinese coins ousted from circulation: as Messrs. Shewan and Armstrong point out, it is the *principle* contained in the words which give power to prohibit import of legal tender to which I refer. Since it appears to be at variance with the unanimous view regarding repudiation recorded by the committee.

(*c.*) Export of legal tender coins.—Are the majority unanimous in thinking prohibition of such coins to be expedient or necessary? except as a measure of reciprocity in case the Two Kwang provinces undertook to prohibit export of their coinage—which would be impossible and chimerical? The object being to rehabilitate our coinage, decrease by exportation would be advantageous, and it is highly improbable that export to any large extent would take place, as in former years, now that China is flooded with a subsidiary coinage of her own? It is in fact admitted that the danger lies the other way, *viz.*, of an influx of Hongkong coins from China when their value approaches par here? If the Hongkong coins should rise above par they can be reduced in value by issues from the reserve. Prohibition of export would be difficult to enforce?—The proposal to prohibit export is I presume meant to apply only after Hongkong coins reached par?

(*d.*) Circulation of prohibited coins.—Para. 11 of the majority report is amplified by section 7 (2) and section 6 (1) of the draft Bill. This appears to require some further explanation. Persons (under section 6) may legally import specified quantities of "prohibited" coins, and presumably under the licences referred to in section 6 (3) further quantities might be authorised. How then can the Police discriminate between the coins circulated after legal import, and those circulated after illegal import? Clearly the only resource available to a person who has legally imported "prohibited" coins (*viz.*, in quantities less than those prescribed or under licence) is to change it at once for legal tender, the object being to create a large demand for legal tender and so to rehabilitate the Hongkong coinage. Will not this mean a large profit to the money changer class? and (as above suggested) should not this be simultaneously met by a heavy tax on this class? Would the committee agree that the prohibition of *circulation* should be temporarily deferred in order to prevent (*a*) dislocation of trade, (*b*) hardship to ignorant and poor persons and undue interference with the individual, and, (*c*) influx of Hongkong coin from China which, even if prohibited, would in such circumstances be largely smuggled in.

N.B.—It is clear that such a Bill as proposed could only be introduced simultaneously with regulations which would indicate the extent to which the powers conferred by the Bill were to be exercised. It is therefore necessary in considering the proposals, to consider at the same time the nature of the regulations which would give practical effect to it, and it is with this object that I have indicated what further and more precise information is required on this head.

III.—WITHDRAWAL OF HONGKONG COINS FROM CIRCULATION BY GOVERNMENT.

It was stated by the chairman that I had urged this course, but reference to my memo. will show that I expressed no view on the subject. It was on the other hand the accepted policy of the Government before my arrival, and it received the approval of the Secretary of State. It involves of course an annual outlay of revenue. The majority report approves this course, with however the very important proviso that "it will be a failure unless prohibition is enforced." What does "prohibition" here connote—does it mean prohibition of import only and of both Chinese and Hongkong coins, or the former only? In so important a proviso absolute clearness is essential. The minority apparently consider withdrawal by Government unnecessary? and consider that it would simply cause Hongkong coin to be replaced by Chinese; in which view I understand the majority to concur in view of the proviso referred to. Is the committee then unanimously opposed to the present policy of Government unless prohibition is enforced? It is most important for the Government to be quite clear on this point.

In writing this memo., as also in the case of my former memo., I have carefully avoided the expression of my private views. My object in the former memo. was to lay before the committee, as concisely as possible, a few of the theories advanced, in order that they might record their view on each. My object in the present memo. is to make it quite clear what the recommendations of the committee are, and to ask for a fuller expression of their views where they require amplification and precision. I desire therefore that the committee should meet once again and formulate replies to the questions I have asked and I hope that those who dissent from the majority report will nevertheless be so good as to give their views on the points raised. Later when the matter is discussed in Executive and debated in Legislative Council it will be time enough for me to express my personal views.

F. D. LUGARD.

12th November, 1907.

THE REPLY.

The reply of majority report signatories to His Excellency's memo, of the 12th November, 1907, reads:—

II.—PROHIBITION.—IMPORT, EXPORT AND CIRCULATION.

(*a.*) Import of Chinese subsidiary coins.—The majority consider that permits should be issued only to the extent necessary for carrying on legitimate exchange business in the Colony; that there should be no licence fee; and that no such fee would be justifiable inasmuch as it would be a tax on legitimate business, which would be deranged unduly thereby.

(*b.*) Import of coins which are legal tender.—No repudiation of our coinage can be entertained.

Anything in the draft Bill inconsistent with the report should be modified, but the Bill only gives powers which may or may not be exercised.

The report does not advise that prohibition of import of our own coin should be imposed at all events in the present circumstances of the case, but if the words in the Bill are thought objectionable they can be deleted.

(*c.*) Export of coins which are legal tender.—This is a matter similar to the above. No recommendation is made in the report to prohibit export in present circumstances; it was only advised that power might be taken to do such in case it might be considered necessary in the future.

The majority do not advise any agreement with the Government of the Two Kwang in the matter as they consider the question one for the Hongkong Government alone.

There is not the slightest fear of any great export business so long as the coinage is at 5% discount, and the question would therefore not arise till it is at par, or at a premium.

The objection to relying on a reserve is that Government has a large quantity of coins locked up whereas it might be reduced to have a corresponding overdraft for carrying on the ordinary business of the Colony.

The enforcement of the prohibition would be largely a matter of experience, but the giving of rewards to informers as contemplated is a very effective measure.

(*d.*) Circulation of prohibited coins.—No difficulty arises as circulation is to be prohibited *in toto*.

Coins imported under licence are only to be used for exchange purposes.

The money changers will not do any more business perhaps than they have been doing recently, but in any case it would be invidious for Government to discriminate them from other legitimate business in the Colony by putting on a special tax.

The whole report of the majority is modified by paragraph 17 which would allow prohibition of circulation to be deferred for such time as Government considered expedient.

The majority have no objection to the influx of Hongkong coin in any case.

III.—WITHDRAWAL OF HONGKONG COINS FROM CIRCULATION.

The word "prohibition" as used in the majority report means total prohibition of circulation, (after due notice) and in addition, to assist such prohibition, partial prohibition of import of alien coins.

Hongkong coins are not considered under prohibition in present circumstances.

The majority consider that prohibition is necessary to give full and proper effect to the policy of withdrawing Hongkong coins from circulation, and that the prohibition of circulation of alien coins is the first important point in the matter.

The present policy of the Government may be continued but no coins sent home for melting and sale till a final decision as to further action has been arrived at.

No purchases of coins in the open market should be made in the meantime.

A. M. J. THOMSON.
A. J. RAYMOND.
ROBT. SHEWAN.
WEI A YUK.

THE MINORITY'S REPLY.

The minority's reply to H. E.'s memo. of 10th November, 1907, is given in parallel columns. In reproducing the answers we are not reprinting the Governor's questions which are given above. Reference is made to them in numerical order; the numbers preceding each of the following answers correspondent to the respective paragraphs of the Governor's questions:—

1.—This question to be replied to by the "Independents."

2.—See memorandum attached.

3.—Minority have nothing to say.

4.—This is for the majority to say. The minority disagree "in toto" with prohibition at this stage.

5.—See above answer. If the Government should decide to enforce prohibition we believe only strong measures will make such a scheme effective, hence our objection to it.

6.—These questions to be replied to by the majority.

7.—Even if the statement is correct the minority consider that it would not be advisable to impose such a fee. Heavy licence fees would only be shifting the burden off one shoulder on to the other. Money changers would take advantage of it.

8.—Yes; the proposed time limit, was abandoned.

9.—This is for the majority to say—the minority had no hand in drafting the Bill. In our opinion coins that are legal tender cannot be prohibited unless we are prepared to face the dilemma of repudiation. It would be difficult to prevent smuggling.

10.—This is a question for the majority to answer. The minority are of opinion that the export of legal tender coins should not be prohibited.

11.—The export of any large amount in the ordinary course of trade seems now improbable and can therefore have little influence on rehabilitation.

12.—Admitted, but such an influx would not take place if by arrangement the discount on both British and Canton subsidiary coins was gradually and simultaneously reduced.

13.—Agreed.

14.—For the majority to answer.

15.—Impossible.

16.—A large demand for Hongkong subsidiary coins would reduce the percentage of discount on these coins. If, by legislation, we made our coins more valuable than the Canton ones a large percentage of those held in China might come back to Hongkong unless their import was prohibited, and this would mean repudiation which Committee are unanimously opposed to. (The course suggested by the minority is to bring about a gradual and simultaneous reduction of the discount on both Hongkong and Canton subsidiary coins).

17.—Not necessarily so as competition could to a certain extent be relied upon.

18.—The minority, while disagreeing with prohibition of import and circulation, would remark that, to render the first effective, the second must be "introduced simultaneously, after sufficient notice has been given to the public that both import and circulation are to be prohibited. To at once prohibit the import of Canton subsidiary coins and to temporarily defer prohibition of their circulation would give big holders of these coins an opportunity to unload their stock to those "ignorant and poor persons."

19.—First part to be replied to by the majority. The minority consider withdrawal by Government unnecessary if their proposals are adopted and prove successful. If the import and circulation of Canton subsidiary coins are prohibited, as recommended by the majority, a considerable influx of Hongkong subsidiary coins from the Two Kwang Provinces may be expected and, in order to bring the coins up to par, withdrawal by Government would be necessary until the demand overtook the supply. Until a final decision is arrived at the minority consider that the Government should continue to withdraw the coins received as revenue and retain them in the Colony.

D. R. LAW.
A. G. WOOD.
J. R. M. SMITH.

MEMORANDUM REFERRED TO IN ANSWER TO QUESTION 2.

1. In urging the fulfilment of Art. II. of the Mackay Treaty, we certainly understand it to refer to all Provincial mints.

2. As regards the question of a new standard (silver coin) it was suggested in the original minute (20th August) on subsidiary coinage, under enclosure 2, to have subsidiary coins "of the same millesimal fineness as the dollar and of equal proportional weight, *e.g.*, 10 ten-cent pieces must equal one dollar in weight, in order to abolish the disparity in bullion or intrinsic value between the two."

To this we have to say that—

Having small coins of the same proportionate weight and fineness to the standard coin is sound enough but we think needlessly expensive. We suggest that they be of equal fineness but reduced in relative weight to an extent to cover minting charges say—%. This would be sufficient to prevent the small coin being melted on the one hand and going to a heavy discount on the other.

We would add that this is a question affecting not only Hongkong but British interests in the various treaty ports of China, and an exchange of views should first be sought so as to arrive at an unanimous representation.

That naturally means protracted negotiations. On that account the minority recommended separate negotiations as regards Canton to meet the immediate situation which is relatively a very small matter.

3. We do not suggest making a point of the Viceroy withdrawing coins (if he is willing to do it so much the better), but we think he should be asked not to issue the stock, if any, held in the Provincial Treasury until they are at par.

4. We do not suggest the coinage of a Provincial dollar, as it would only make the general reform scheme more difficult.

5. As regards China adopting a gold standard it will be time enough to consider that, after she has successfully reformed her copper and silver currency into an uniform national coinage.

Note.—In this connection we would remark that when China is prevailed upon to reform her currency, this Colony will have to face redemption or repudiation. In fact the Colony will then also have to reform its currency for it cannot continue to maintain its commercial influence if deprived of handling the foreign trade and commerce of Southern China as it assuredly would be if that trade was subject to another exchange. It should not be forgotten that our present standard is an silver coin—the Mexican Dollar—and at present the Canton subsidiary coin is as good intrinsically as our own.

Hongkong, 16th December, 1907.

MR. ARMSTRONG'S REPLY.

Following is Mr. Armstrong's reply to Memo. on report of Subsidiary Coin Committee:—

Although I am not opposed to negotiation with Pekin, either as regards the Mackay Treaty, the control of the Provincial Mints, Gold standard and the withdrawal of Chinese subsidiary coins, I do not think it necessary, nor do I think it will result in anything and if we are to delay action until we get anything like a definite answer to any of these points, it may be years before anything is done. The Chinese Government in Canton will doubtless coin dollars whether we ask them to do so or not. If they do not, we can supply them with all they want.

The extent to which permits should be issued must be left entirely with the Government. I should say that if a Chinese Bank or money changer wanted a permit to import $10,000 every week, it should be refused, unless the applicant can show a valid reason for requiring to import such a large amount. There should be no licence fee, the poor man who, we will say, comes into the Colony with 1100 in subsidiary coins to buy goods with will suffer much more by such fee than the big man who imports in bulk as a speculation, and recoups himself by the discount ruling between this and Canton. A large fee might check to some extent the over-large imports, but it would also stop people from buying goods here.

I am against repudiation now or five years hence. (What are "these words"?).

To prohibit the export of Hongkong subsidiary coin is not necessary, nor desirable, nor could it be enforced.

I do not propose that the circulation of Chinese subsidiary coin in this Colony should be stopped, if the importation in bulk is restricted the coins will go out of circulation of their own accord.

My suggestion that there should be Government Exchange Bureau to buy the coin at a rate fixed by them, was only in case circulation was prohibited.

It would be useless for the Government to withdraw any more of their subsidiary coin without making some restriction as to the importation of Chinese subsidiary coin, the more the Government withdraw the more room there is for Chinese coins to come in.

The report says that the majority are in favour of prohibition. There is a legitimate business in Chinese subsidiary coin in this Colony not intended for local circulation which total prohibition would dislocate. Every year thousands of coolies arrive in Hongkong from abroad with their savings. Hongkong is where they start for their homes in China. They want Chinese money to take with them just as much as we take sovereigns when we go home.

J. ARMSTRONG.

22nd November, 1907.

THE HONGKONG LAND INVESTMENT AND AGENCY CO., LD.

ANNUAL REPORT.

The nineteenth report of the Board of Directors to the ordinary meeting of shareholders to be held at the company's offices, Victoria Buildings, at noon, on Tuesday, the 28th January, 1908, is as follows:—

Gentlemen,—The directors have now to submit to you a general statement of the affairs of the company, and balance sheet for the year ending 31st December, 1907.

The net profits for that period, including $56,218.38 balance brought forward from last account, after paying all charges, amount to $470,946.43. From this amount an interim dividend of $3.50 per share has already been paid. It is now proposed to pay a final dividend of $3.50 per share, and after writing off directors' and auditors' fees there remains a balance of $36,915.47 to be carried forward to the credit of a new profit and loss account.

DIRECTORS.

Messrs N. A. Siebs, D. M. Nissim and A. Haupt having resigned, Messrs A. Fuchs, E. Shellim and G. Friesland were invited to join the Board in their places, and these appointments now require confirmation.

Messrs G. Friesland and A. Fuchs now retire by rotation, but offer themselves for re-election.

AUDITORS.

The accounts have been audited by Messrs C. W. May and H. Percy Smith, who now retire, but offer themselves for re-election.

HENRY KESWICK,
Chairman.

Hongkong, 14th January, 1908.

BALANCE SHEET TO 31ST DECEMBER, 1907.

Liabilities.

Dec. 31, 1907.		
Capital		$5,000,000.00
Equalization of dividend fund		250,000.00
Accounts payable		1,607,056.54
Balance of profit and loss account	$420,946.43	
Less interim dividend paid	175,000.00	
		245,946.43
		$7,103,002.97

Assets.

Dec. 31, 1907.		
Cash		$ 6,213.88
Amount advanced on mortgage		933,700.00
Amount invested in property		6,101,883.83
Furniture account		4,190.42
Account receivable		57,014.80
		$7,103,002.97

PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT.

For the Year ending 31st December, 1907.

Dr.

December 31st, 1907.		
To Interim dividend of 3½ % for the half-year		$175,000.00
„ Charges account		29,899.89
„ Repairs to house property		17,483.79
„ Advertising		1,170.49
„ Fire insurance		20,129.37
„ Legal expenses		587.50
„ Interest on Loans payable	$106,028.06	
Less interest on mortgages	88,909.01	
		17,119.05
„ Balance to be appropriated as follows:—		
Directors' fees	$ 7,500.00	
Managing directors' fees	25,530.96	
Auditors' fees	1,000.00	
Final dividend of 3½% for the half-year	175,000.00	
Balance to be carried to new account	36,915.47	
		245,946.43
		$507,336.52

Cr.

Jan. 1.		
By Undivided profits, 1906		$ 56,218.38
Dec. 31 1907.		
By Rents		441,086.22
„ Commission		9,905.92
„ Scrip fees		126.00
		$507,336.52

STATION leave of absence has been granted to Major A. E. Hatch, 13th Batchelor, from 30th January to 13th February with permission to travel in neighbouring countries.

DIOCESAN SCHOOL AND ORPHANAGE.

ANNUAL PRIZE DISTRIBUTION.

The last of the series of prize-distributions which have engaged the attention of the public for the past week or so concluded last Thursday, when the scholars of the Diocesan School and Orphanage were handed their prizes by His Excellency Sir Frederick Lugard, who was accompanied by Lady Lugard and Captain Mitchell Taylor and Mr. A. J. Brackenbury, A.D.C's.

Those present were:—Bishop Lander, Archdeacon Banister, Mrs. E. D. C. Wolfe, Inspector of Schools, Dr. and Mrs. G. H. Bateson Wright, Mr. Ho Kom Tong, Rev. and Mrs. Pearce, Rev. Mr. F. T. Johnson, Mrs. Hutcher, Miss Bird, Mr. and Mrs. Stapleton, Mr. and Mrs. Braidwood, Rev. and Mrs. J. H. France, Mrs. Bishop, Mrs. H. L. White, Mrs. J. Shepherd, Mrs. Gourdin, Mrs. Coleman, Mr. McPherson, Dr. Miss Sibree, Mrs. Brown, Mr. Hamilton, Dr. Atkinson, Rev. Stephens, etc.

HEADMASTER'S REPORT.

Mr. Piercy said:—The year began rather unfortunately, for the boys had re-assembled only a short time after the Chinese New Year holidays, when an epidemic of mumps, measles and chicken-pox broke out and the school was closed by medical advice for ten days (including Easter), and absence on account of illness was very common until the warm weather set in, in May. Notwithstanding this, with an enrolment of 320 boys the average attendance was 226.5 compared with 222.5 in 1906. Every year a number of applicants for admission both as boarders and day-scholars have to be refused for want of accommodation, so that much higher figures cannot be expected until the older and more dilapidated parts of the buildings are replaced by more modern and larger premises. In addition to weekly examinations held throughout the year, I examined the whole school at midsummer and again at the close of the present term and am satisfied with the good work done throughout the year, and more especially the improvement in the lower part of the school. At the Oxford Local Examinations in July, 8 boys passed the preliminary, 4 the junior and 3 the senior, making a total of 15 as compared with 12 passes last year. In the hon. secretary's annual report, Dr. Bateson Wright reviews the 20 years that these local examinations have been held in the Colony and concludes with this sentence, "It is manifest that the palm for steady success during the last 16 years cannot be withheld from the Diocesan School." Mr. Wolfe, H. M.'s Inspector of Schools, who examined the boys orally in the lower part of the school and by written work in the upper forms last December, has awarded to Chiu Chan-tsz a prize for history, kindly presented by Mr. H. W. Kennett, for the boy most distinguished in the Government examinations. Rev. A. D. Stewart conducted the examination in religious knowledge; both reports are appended. During the winter months the Government loaned us the excellent lantern and slides prepared by the League of the Empire, and Mr. Brawn again most ably lectured on the United Kingdom and its Dominions beyond the Sea, Mr. Sykes giving valuable help with the lantern. The series of lectures was attended by the senior girls from the "Fairlea" and Diocesan Girls' Schools as well as our own boys.

Two years ago, Sir Matthew Nathan presented a handsome silver shield to be competed for by teams of ten from any school teaching hygiene. Seven schools entered for the examination which was held at Queen's College for boys and at the Belilios Schools for girls. Our team consisted of five boys from the fourth and five from the fifth standards; their aggregate of marks was about 60 more than that of any other team and so we, for the second time, carried off the shield. The Hon. Dr. Atkinson has kindly given a prize for the best hygiene paper in the school. In January of last year Mrs. Noble resigned to be married and her place was most efficiently filled by Mrs. Tuxford, a trained and certificated teacher who has greatly improved the work of the lower classes, especially in arithmetic. In November Mr. Duncan Brown arrived from Australia to take the place of Mr. Hall on his return to England. The Anglo-Chinese assistant was twice changed and now we have in Mr. Lui Cho-hang a teacher who can maintain order and explain the English lessons in Chinese most satisfactorily.

The boarders have been regularly drilled by Sergeant Liddard, of the Middlesex Regiment. The bathing excursions were greatly enjoyed and an increasingly large number of boys are able to swim; the season closed with aquatic sports when prizes for the various events were eagerly competed for; our thanks are due to Messrs. Nairn and Tuxford for kind assistance on that occasion. On Boxing Day the usual joint picnic for the boarders in the two Diocesan Schools was held and a pleasant afternoon was spent at "Seeton" where various sports were indulged in. Cricket and more especially football still continue very popular and matches have been played with varying success. Our thanks are due to J. Bryant, Esq., who kindly gave a lantern and slides; to Messrs. Skott & Co. for 10 bags of flour; also to the hon. Dr. Atkinson, Hon. Mr. E. A. Hewett, Hon. Mr. Wei Yuk, Rev. F. T. Johnson, Messrs. L. Arnold, F. B. L. Bowley, Fung Wa Chun, Ho Fook, Ho Tung, H. W. Kennett, Sin Tak-fan, F. Southey, A. S. Tuxford and Wing Pochuen for contributions towards the prize fund.

Following is the Inspector of Schools' report:—

Staff.—Head-master; 7 assistant European masters, and mistresses; 3 Chinese masters.

Discipline and organization.—Good. The work of the school continues to be very efficient on the whole, but more attention will have to be paid to arithmetic and grammar in certain classes and to Chinese throughout.

Sanitation.—Very satisfactory.

Apparatus.—Very satisfactory.

Floor space.—Sufficient for 470 pupils.

English.—Colloquial: This subject is distinctly good in the upper standards, but I and II are weak.

Reading.—Good throughout.

Writing.—All papers shown us were neat and showed that this subject has received attention.

Composition.—Very good in Standard VII. The subject matter was well thought out and the essays were written in good style, but the first person and such terms as "firstly," "secondly," should be avoided in any essay. In Standards VI and V there were numerous grammatical errors and mistakes in spelling which brought down the standard of the essays. Standard V reproduced a story which only two boys failed to understand. The four lower standards were fair. Their chief weaknesses were mistakes in grammar.

Dictation.—In the lower standards was good.

Grammar.—Good on the whole. The parsing in Standard IV was poor. Standard VII was distinctly good.

Geography.—Good. The papers were neat. Standard VI might have done better, as the paper was easy. The work in III and II is rather too general, being chiefly confined to definitions. II offered very little for examination.

History.—Standard VII did very well indeed. Their work was well above the usual school standard and showed careful teaching. In this connection the paper shown by Chiu Yan-tsz deserves special mention. Standard VI very fair. Standard V good.

Mathematics.—Arithmetic good in the lower standards, poor in IV, V and VI, and good in Standard VII. This subject will have to receive more attention in the new year.

Geometry.—Good. If a proposition is continued on a new page the figure should be drawn again to facilitate the proof being checked.

Geometrical Drawing.—Standard VI good; VII very good. The inking of the drawings is a great improvement.

Algebra.—Standard V very fair; the average was brought down by several complete failures. Standard VI fair only. Standard VII distinctly good and a great advance on the two lower standards.

Bookkeeping.—This subject is taken in Standard VII only. The work was fairly accurate and the commercial terms were well known.

Latin.—The upper classes, VI and VII, suffered as this subject had to be dropped during the preparation of the pupils for the Oxford Local Examinations, Class V where the study was not interrupted did well.

Chinese.—Reading and composition were done in Standards I to III only and translation from and into Chinese in Standards V, VI and VII. Standard IV appears to have been omitted. Reading and composition should be continued up to Standard V at least.

Chinese Reading.—Standard I fair to poor, Standard II good on the whole but 5 boys were quite unable to read. III fair to poor. Reading certainly requires more attention.

Composition.—Very fair, but each class had a tail consisting of boys who knew nothing.

Translation from Chinese into English.—Standard VI very fair. Standard VII good, but only four boys in all showed up papers in these two standards. In Standard V, 8 boys did translation. Two did well, the remainder badly and among them three wrote nonsense.

English into Chinese.—Standard VI did well as did Standard VII but in the former some boys did not know the Chinese title for the Registrar-General. In the same standard one boy did not know the form in which a Chinese petition should be written. Chinese seems to be somewhat neglected and should receive more attention. It might be well to class the boys in Chinese according to their attainments and not according to the English class they are in. The present system, tends to keep good boys back.

Grant.—I again return the school as "thoroughly efficient" and recommend a grant at the rate of 35/-. (Applause.)

SCRIPTURE REPORT.

The Scripture report is follows:—The *viva voce* examination of the two lowest classes was very encouraging, the answers of the boys in the second standard being particularly bright and intelligent, showing a clear grasp of what they had been taught. The written answers of Standards III and IV were disappointing, only a small proportion obtaining more than half marks, many of the answers showing a sad confusion of the facts learned. The three upper standards were, on the other hand, distinctly good. Out of 26 boys in Standard V, 19 obtained more than half marks, 7 got over 70%, the prize-winner getting 98%. Five of the ten boys in the sixth standard, in a decidedly more difficult paper, obtained over half marks, while the whole of Standard VII with one exception, doing the same paper, obtained more than 60%, a decidedly creditable performance. (Applause).

"WELCOME."

Bishop Lander said, on behalf of the committee and the boys of the school, he expressed a very cordial welcome to His Excellencies who had so very kindly attended the annual prize distribution. He thought ladies and gentlemen who took an interest in education had had plenty of occupation during the last few days. The same faces at the different prize distributions showed a spirit of harmony in connection with education, and it would be a good thing if they had the same hearty co-operation in their educational work. The English people were sometimes in danger of suffering from the disease called insularity, but the scholars at the Diocesan School were not likely to suffer from that. His Lordship, concluding, advised the boys to do what they had to do with all their might, and then called upon the Governor to address the assembly.

THE GOVERNOR'S SPEECH.

His Excellency said that at last year's prize-distribution the proceedings were clouded by the memory of the loss of Bishop Hoare, who was so deservedly popular as chairman of the committee of the school, and who lost his life in the typhoon of September, 1906. During the last year his predecessor, Sir Matthew Nathan, had been transferred to another sphere, and they had again lost in him a great friend and one who took the keenest interest in the Diocesan Boys' School. The Bishop and himself who were the successors to these supporters of education in Hongkong, and of the Diocesan Boys' School, were there "to assure you both by our presence and by our words that we take no less deep an interest in the education of this school than those who preceded us." (Applause). He had glanced at previous reports concerning this school, and he saw it had been a fortunate task to whoever presided in the chair on this occasion almost invariably to praise the work of the previous year, and to congratulate the school on its progress, and he was most glad it had fallen to him to be able to do the same this year. The average attendance had increased. It stood at 195 last year; it had risen again to 226. The headmaster in his report which they had just heard said he was thoroughly satisfied with the progress made during the year, and he thought the standard was a high one. He was glad to see, also, that he laid special stress on the progress of the lower school. The Inspector of Schools said that the school was thoroughly efficient, and was awarded the highest grant. (Applause). He would like to have been able to see the report of the committee for the past year, but he believed it was not yet issued. However, he looked up the report for 1906, and saw that the committee then said they were glad to be able to congratulate the school on more pupils, more fees and a better average attendance, and he thought from what he had heard they would be able to say the same on the year just closed. (Applause).

Proceeding, his Excellency said:—Ladies and gentlemen, you cannot have more pupils if you have not got room to put them and we heard from Mr. Piercy that the accommodation in the school is now too limited and he desires that new buildings should replace the old ones. The school is managed by a very powerful and influential committee and I hope they will take this matter into their consideration and see whether or not it is feasible to make the extensions the headmaster desires, so that on a future year you will not have to say that boys have been from year to year refused because there was not room to put them up. Personally, I should like to say that any extensions should be specially extended to accommodation for boys. I believe myself that a boy does not derive the full benefit of school life as I said the other day at, I think, St. Joseph's College, unless he learns to find his own level amongst other boys, subject to certain rules of character which necessarily comes from mixing with other boys and finding, as I said, his level amongst them. The Inspector of Schools gives us a detailed criticism on the different subjects which have formed the study of the past year. I do not intend to follow him in detail of criticism or detailed remarks upon them. Personally, although I have myself always been on the classical side in public schools, I am sorry to see that Latin is taught in a school which numbers only eighteen Europeans out of a total of 248. But this is a matter for the committee to decide. I am very glad to be able to congratulate the school on winning the Hygiene Shield for the second time in succession and with a large preponderance of marks—60 above any other competitors. (Applause). I am glad to hear of the interest taken and the good achieved in visual instruction. That I think is one of the forms in which habits of observation can best be trained, and those habits of observation, I entirely concur with our Lordship, are at least as useful as lessons of the classroom. In sport you did not succeed last year in retaining the Football Shield, but I hear that both football and cricket have been well maintained. There are a large number of schools in Hongkong each with a different aim and object and we can gauge so some extent their relation towards each other and their comparative merits in the matter of education by the report of the Inspector of Schools, but that report does not include Queen's College and I think St. Stephen's. We can also gauge it to some extent by the competitions for the Oxford Local Examinations and also by the competitions for the Belilios prize, the Hygiene Shield, and other prizes for every competition between all the schools. But I should like myself to see some simple test on general information and general intelligence. I propose, therefore, if it meets with the concurrence of the headmasters to offer a small prize next year for a paper on general information."

He said he would set it himself and ask one or two questions on each subject which had formed the study of the past year; and each school would nominate, say four or five boys, to compete. He would like, if possible, to institute a handicap for age but it would be seen whether that was feasible or not. In sports and athletics, too, they had a football league and a challenge shield, but he saw comparatively few cricket matches, and no matches at all so far as he was aware in hockey, tennis, swimming &c. He made the suggestion that they should appoint a committee of one master from each of the principal schools and, perhaps, one boy, and they should form a general committee on sports and athletics. It should be their business, if possible, to institute an inter-school annual athletic competition and also to arrange different inter-school matches. And so far as he could see such competition as there had been between the different schools in athletics had been limited to the first eleven of each school in either cricket or football. He would like to see second elevens compete together and if it was possible to get up a sufficient number of second elevens in the different schools he would be glad to offer a prize. . . It was only yesterday that he came across a book, written by China's great statesman, Chan Chih Tung, entitled "China's Only Hope." It was a remarkable book, written by a remarkable man. Chan Chih Tung, he said, was second to none of China's statesmen, and he had a peculiar claim upon our attention, both on account of his patriotism, and his learning, and his disinterestedness. Perhaps in that matter he was rather exceptional. Chan Chih Tung said, speaking of education, "that it is absolutely necessary for China to utilise Western knowledge for knowledge alone can preserve China to put aside their *wing* and *queue* by which are understood empty form and pride and lack of energy. He urged the establishment of schools throughout China and goes so far on to say on the temples of Buddism and Taoism that seven out of ten should be turned into schools. These are the words of one of the greatest temporary Chinese statesmen, and H.E. thought they should carry a great weight with Chinese views. He wished the scholars a pleasant holiday and a happy New Year, and he advised them not to be idle at holiday-time, but to devote a little of their time in keeping abreast with what they had learnt during the past year and he recommended that they should read interesting and instructive books. Those who had won books should read them, the others could borrow. (Applause).

The prizes were then distributed.

PRIZE LIST.

Oxford Local Examinations.

Senior:—F. J. Brandt, F. J. Hastings, P. Whitfield.

Junior:—Chau Chu-yan, Chiu Yan-tsz, J. C. Frewin, G. E. Lace.

Preliminary:—P. F. Ablong, H. Anderson, W. W. Edwards, A. Hall, G. J. Litton, Leung Ping-kwan, W. H. B. Muskett, T. G. A. Strangman.

Class Prizes.

VII Standard, 1 Chiu Yan-tsz, 2 Chau Chu yan.

VI Standard, 1 P. F. Ablong, 2 T. G. A. Strangman.

V Standard, 1 Chiu Yan-tak, 2 J. Whitfield.

IVA Standard, 1 T. Rowan, 2 P. A. Mansberg.

IVB Standard, 1 Wong Tso-i, 2 Tam Tsz-yan.

IIIA Standard, 1 P. Abesser, 2 P. Rathsam.

IIIB Standard, 1 Pak Shu-tong, 2 Fung Hon-hung.

IIA Standard, 1 Yap Ping-fan, 2 Lee Hon-chuen.

IIB Standard, 1 Cheung U-poi, 2 Wong Cheuk-kwong.

IA Standard, 1 T. Lay 2 H. Jackson.

IB Standard, 1 Moy Chau-sing, 2 Leung Ying-yuen.

Scripture prizes: Awarded by Rev. A. D. Stewart:—VII, Chiu Yan-tsz; VI, A. E. Hall, V, Chiu Yan-tak, VIA, D. Noronha, B; Wong Tao-i, IIIA, W. Siemsen, B, Mok Hing-cheung, IIA, W. H. Stapleton, B, J. Wong, IA, C. Parker, B Leung Sau, Leung Ju-ki.

Special Prizes.

Prize awarded by Inspector of Schools for best examination paper:—Chiu Yan-tsz,

VII Hygiene and Mathematics; Chau Chu-yan.

Shakespeare; S. Jex.

Latin; G. E. Lace.

VI Mathematics; H. Anderson.

Latin; R. M. Smith.

V Hygiene; J. A. Smith.

Mathematics; Leung Kwan.

Latin; J. Whitfield.

Chinese; Chan Cheuk-nam.

Music; C. K. May.

IV Algebra; Chan Pak-cheung.

III Brush Drawing; P. Rathsam.

II Brush Drawing; Wong Ki-kwan.

I Chinese; Che Cham-chuen.

Drill; Senior, A. E. Jenkins.

Junior, A. Ho.

Drawing; Chu Ho-fan.

Ho Kom-tong Scholarship, $50; Chiu Yan-tsz.

Rev. M. Johnson, the secretary of the school, said that two years ago a little Chinese boy handed a cheque for a large amount to the head master to be given to the best boy, and it was to be known as the Ho Kom Tong's scholarship. This year it was won by Master Chiu Yan-tsz, and he asked his Excellency to present the envelope to the lad. It did not contain any money, he said, but a token for the work done during the past year. (Applause).

This was done, amidst loud applause.

Archdeacon Banister proposed a vote of thanks to their Excellencies, which was seconded by Dr. Atkinson. And the proceedings broke up with loud cheers.

THE WEST POINT BUILDING COMPANY, LIMITED.

ANNUAL REPORT.

Following is the nineteenth report of the general agents to the ordinary meeting of shareholders to be held at the company's offices, Victoria Buildings, at 11.30 o'clock a.m. on Tuesday, the 28th inst.:—

Gentlemen,—The general agents now submit to you a statement of the affairs of the company, and balance sheet for the year ending 31st December, 1907.

The net profits for the year, including the amount brought forward from the previous year, amount to $53,341.31. From this amount an interim dividend of $2.00 per share has already been paid, and, after writing off directors' and auditor's fees, it is now proposed to pay a final dividend of $2.10 per share, making a total dividend for the twelve months of $4.10 per share, and to carry forward the balance of $1,541.31 to credit of a new profit and loss account.

DIRECTORS.

Hon. Mr. W. J. Gresson, having retired, Hon. H. Keswick has been appointed in his stead, and this appointment now requires confirmation.

Hon. Sir Paul Chater and Mr. A. G. Wood retire by rotation, but offer themselves for re-election.

AUDIT.

The accounts have been audited by Mr. C. W. May, who offers himself for re-election.

A. SHELTON HOOPER,
Secretary to the Hongkong Land Investment and Agency Co., Ld.,
General Agents for the West Point Building Co., Ld.

Hongkong, 14th January, 1908.

BALANCE SHEET TO 31ST DECEMBER, 1907.

Liabilities.

Dec. 31st, 1907.		
Capital		$625,000.00
Accounts payable		905.14
Balance of profit and loss account	$53,341.31	
Less interim dividend paid	25,000.00	
		28,341.31
		$654,246.45

Assets.

Dec. 31st, 1907.		
Cost of property		$614,801.81
Cash		39,444.64
		$654,246.45

PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT.

Dr.

December 31, 1907.		
To Fire insurance		$3,122.75
„ Charges		242.90
„ Crown rent		818.00
„ Repairs to buildings		1,632.91
„ Commission to agents		2,727.47
„ Interim dividend of $2.00 for half-year		25,000.00
„ Balance to be carried to new a/c		28,341.31
		$62,084.74

Cr.

January 1, 1907.		
By Balance brought forward		$1,510.47
December 31, 1907.		
„ Rents		60,000.00
„ Interest		542.27
„ Scrip fees		25.00
		$62,084.74

HOUSE-RENT AND DAMAGES.

ACTION AT THE SUPREME COURT.

At the Supreme Court, last Thursday, before Mr. Justice Wise, Lau Lin, a widow, sued Sai Tak, a landlord, to recover $406.65, alleged to be the value of goods wrongfully seized, and $250 as damages. Sai Kee brought a counter-claim for $33 alleged to be due as rent.

Mr. Otto Kong Sing appeared for plaintiff and Mr. Grist for the defendant.

The plaintiff said she had rented a room in a house in Second Street from the defendant and had paid the rent to August 31st. On 27th September she went on a visit to the country and when she returned found her goods were seized. She asked the landlord for a reason and he said he had sold the goods because she had not paid the rent. She gave a list of jewellery she had left in the house.

Mr. Grist: What we found was three sleeping benches, two old stools, one broken kerosine lamp, and a piece of wood.

Sai Kee said he had taken no goods away.

His Lordship said an action such as the plaintiff brought could only succeed if it was proved up to the hilt, otherwise as avenue of fraud, by which a person could refurnish his house, would be opened. The plaintiff's case failed and there would be a verdict with costs for Sai Tak in the cross action.

INTERPORT FOOTBALL.

SHIELD COMPETITION.

The following team has been chosen, by the Selection Committee, to represent the Hongkong Football Club in their match against the A. Coy. Cameron Highlanders, in the first round of the Hongkong Football Club Shield Competition on Saturday next, the 26th inst. The game is to commence at 3.30 p.m. This is owing to there being a Rugby match following, which is timed to start at 5 p.m.

Goal:—F. H. Kew. Backs:—E. F. Ancott (Capt), H. L. Garret. Half Backs:—J. Hall, F. Weall, A. Gregory. Forwards:—W. H. Williams, O. Eager, J. Mead, R. R. Turner, J. J. Wishart. Referee:—Mr. Whitehill, of H.M.S. *Kent*. Linesmen:—Major Brook, Reserves:—Messrs. H. W. Bayer and W. Ross side.

The Shanghai Football Team is due here by the French Mail on the 29th February. On the 3rd they play the Hongkong Football Club, at 4.30 p.m., on the Club's Ground and on the 5th the United Services. They are to be entertained at dinner by the Hongkong Club on the evening of the 4th previous to the latter match. Leave pends for the North of the Colony.

The Canton Football Club have said that they are unable to send a team.

HONGKONG DOCKS.

AWARDED NEW CONTRACT.

BY PORTUGUESE GOVERNMENT.

22nd inst.

For some time past our columns have contained, at regular intervals, the exclusive announcement of awards secured by the Hongkong and Whampoa Dock Co., Ltd., for the construction of new vessels for private firms. More recently we reported the negotiations with Admiral Li Chun for the building of a few light-draft cruisers for the West River Patrol Service, and we are to-day in a position to state authoritatively and definitely that Mr. Robt. Mitchell, the chief manager of the Dock Co., has brought to a successful issue the negotiations for a steam-tender for the Portuguese Government.

For some time past correspondence had been carried on between the Dock Co. and the Portuguese Consulate General in Hongkong in reference to an inquiry by the Timor Government at Dilly for a steam-tender to replace the old *Dilly* built at the Kowloon shipyard many years ago. A tender was submitted which had to be referred to the home Government in Lisbon. Approval of the specifications has now been received by Consul Iheito A. G. Romano, Portuguese Consul-General, and we understand that the contract for the building of a new *Dilly* has been awarded to the Hongkong Dock Co. The vessel is to be of the following dimensions:—Length, 112 ft. between perpendiculars; extreme breadth 18 ft. 6 in., and depth of hold 9 ft. She will be built of teak. The contract price is about $36,000. Mr. J. J. Loiria, Vice-Consul, proceeds to Macao tomorrow to confer with the harbour-master there, Capt. Diogo de Sa, as to certain details of the specification. On his return it is expected that an early start will be made with the building of the tender.

With the order from the American Government now completing at Hongkong, and the award of this new contract by the Portuguese, besides the prospective cruisers for the Provincial authorities at Canton, it cannot be said that the Hongkong Dock Co. does not enjoy a fair share of patronage from the foreign Governments. All the more credit to one of the leading industries of the Colony.

CRICKET AT WUCHOW.

WUCHOW *v.* "ROBIN'S".

Wuchow, 20th January, 1908.

A nine-aside cricket match was played here yesterday between teams representing H.M.S. *Robin* and Wuchow. The local men had first knock and made a bad start, losing two wickets in the first over. Messrs. Daniel and Komaroff then made a stand for the third wicket, the partnership yielding 81 runs before Daniel was caught for a well played and hard hit score of 41. With the exception of Ford (21) the others did badly and the innings terminated for 110, of which Komaroff scored 45 not out by careful play. The *Robins* opened up disastrously, losing 2 wickets for no runs. Dr. Clark-Hall (15) and Cannon (13) were the only two batsmen to reach double figures, the remainder forming a procession. Daniel and Ford, the local bowlers, were in good form, the former being unplayable. Mr. Kearns, for the *Robin* bowled well and took 6 wickets for 49 runs. The following are the scores:—

WUCHOW

S. Bell-Smith b Kearns	7
F. Heilman b Walcott	0
A. Daniel c Kearns b Cannon	41
C. Komaroff not out	45
N. Ford b Kearns	11
[illegible]	0
G. Ades c and b Kearns	2
A. Schmidt b Kearns	0
Extras	4
Total	110

H.M.S. "ROBIN."

Lieut. Walcott st Komaroff b Daniel	0
Dr. Clark-Hall b Ford	15
C. Searle b Daniel	0
A. Kearns b Daniel	9
G. Cannon st Komaroff b Daniel	13
B. Bailey b Daniel	2
A. Parr b Daniel	0
H. Luidsey not out	0
A. Lord b Ford	3
Extras	2
Total	44

"A SOLDIER OF THE LEGION."

THE LATE MR. GEO. MANINGTON.

To those who have read Mr. George Manington's interesting book "A Soldier of the Legion," published quite recently by Mr. Murray, the announcement of his death from malaria in Hongkong comes as a painful shock. His striking account of the strenuous adventures of the soldiers of fortune who constituted his corps sees the light at a most opportune moment, when so many of them are enduring the hardships of war at this moment in Morocco. Although Mr. Manington was not with them, he was nevertheless enduring equal hardships and exposure in the service of the Legion at the other side of the world, and his lamentable death is due directly to those causes. The malaria which attacked him in the forest fors of Tonkin left such impress upon his constitution that periodically he was prostrated by sickness. Nevertheless his energies never slackened, and among many nationalities from Singapore to Seoul he had friends without number. By turns he was a *Times* correspondent, a merchant's assistant, a cattle trader with the Philippines during the early days of the American occupation, and an interpreter. He was even, for a time a dentist, and drew teeth with as much success as was shown in any other of his many occupations. At length a little over three years ago he was ordered home by the doctors, for internal complications followed the recurring attacks of fever, and he was warned that it must be England or an early death. He came to London sick and worn, but still optimistic and cheerful. Within six months, mainly spent in Hampshire, he received an offer to join the editorial staff of a Hongkong paper [*The Hongkong Telegraph*]. His friends protested, but he felt his strength renewed, and cabled an acceptance, eager once more for experience amid the glamour of the East. There he entered into his work with heartsome gladness, and the magnetism and unselfishness which are indicated in his book drew to him troops of friends. But the strength he felt within him was transitory. Again and again his physical enemy seized him, and, in a state of utter debility, he had to take to the hospital, where despite all attention he finally succumbed. His friends mourn the loss of a brave spirit and a true-hearted, gentle companion.—*L. & C. Express.*

Major-General R. G. Broadwood, C.B., having returned from leave of absence, assumes command of the Troops in South China from this date, inclusive.

MACAO'S BOUNDARIES.

AGITATION BY HEUNGSHAN GENTRY.

MILITARY DEMONSTRATION PROPOSED.

[*From Our Own Correspondent.*]

Canton, 21st January, 1908.

The agitation over the question of the alleged Portuguese interference with and encroachment on the Chinese territory at Wantsai, in the neighbourhood of Macao, is still being continued here and in the various parts of the province, owing to the action of the gentry of the district of Heungshan in endeavouring to devise means to have Wantsai converted into a trade centre. The gentry have sent out circulars to that effect. The circulars contain some resolutions to be brought up for discussion and adoption, which are as follows:—(1.) That a Self-Government Association be initiated in Heungshan to discuss the best possible measures to be taken to aid the officials in securing the restoration of Wantsai. (2) That the territory of Wantsai is to be reclaimed under Chinese official protection and that it be converted into a trade centre on the same principles as the new mart of Kung Yik Fou, in the district of Sunning. (3) That a regiment of three hundred troops be stationed in the various places in the territory for protection purposes. (4) That a Government gunboat be detached and stationed permanently in that vicinity for service. (5) That the Telegraph Administration be requested to install a direct telegraph line between the city of Canton and Chinshan and to open a station in Wantsai for the convenience of the commercial community there. (6) That the Government be requested to depute a high official as soon as possible to conduct negotiations with the Portuguese Government of Macao and have the boundary line of the Portuguese colony definitely marked out and to have the teiritorial rights of the river restored to the Chinese.

CORRESPONDENCE.

[We do not necessarily endorse the opinions expressed by Correspondents in this column.]

OXFORD LOCAL EXAMINATIONS.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "HONGKONG TELEGRAPH."

DEAR SIR,—Beside the two Chinese boys to whom His Excellency referred yesterday, 1905 Chow Wan-lam (St. Stephen's) and 1907 Mok Kai-fook (Queen's) both placed in Junior Third Class Honours, there is a third Chinese candidate who obtained Honours, viz., 1905 Tsui Yan-san (St. Joseph's) Preliminary Third Class Honours.

I beg leave to take this opportunity of amending my Historical Report of this Centre by the addition to the Distinction Lists of two names Senior 1904 Graça Ozorio in Scripture, and Preliminary 1905 Tsui Yan-san in Geography, both of St Joseph's.—Your obedient servant,

GEO. H. BATESO WRIGHT,
Hon. Sec.
Oxford Local Examinations,
Hongkong Centre.
23rd January, 1908.

WEST RIVER PATROL.

CHINESE ARRANGEMENTS.

Wuchow, 10th January, 1908.

Admiral Li Chun has now completed his arrangements for the "effective" patrol of the West River, and the various reaches between Wuchow and Sanshui have been divided into sections, with one gunboat and a number of seen how the new regime will work. Local opinion is pessimistic.

UNREST AT NANNING.

Wuchow, 20th January.

News to hand from Nanning give particulars of the present unrest in that district. It appears that the rebels are becoming bolder and with the increase of recruits that they have been getting lately, and owing to their reinforced numbers, are becoming more turbulent H.E. the Governor of Kwangsi has applied for more troops from the North, but his request, it is said, has been refused on the ground that "Nanning was too far away and would be bad for the health of the northern troops." A detachment of Wuchow troops is, however, being sent on to Nanning as soon as transport accommodation can be arranged In view of the present low water this may take some considerable time.

JAPANESE merchants at Tairen have resolved to establish a Chamber of Commerce. The reconstruction of the Seoul-Wiju Railway is nearing completion and the line will be open to freight and passenger traffic under civil management from April 1.

THE last of the vessels attached to the West River Flotilla are returning to port. H.M. sloop *Clio* came down from Canton last Tuesday and was followed later in the evening by t.p.b. *O.36*. The sloop *Cadmus* and the gunboat *Robin* are the only two now left at Canton.

IT is reported from Peking that the Peiyang authorities intended to issue bonds for a domestic loan of Tls. 4,800,000, and that the Tientsin Territorial Taotai will be appointed to undertake the matter. Nothing is said as to the application of the proposed loan.

IN response to a telegraphic dispatch from the Chinese Chargé d'Affaires in Washington asking for the stoppage of the emigration of Chinese (Cantonese) labourers into Brazil, the Waiwupu has instructed Viceroy Chang Jên-chun of Canton to take steps to prevent labourers from going abroad.

THE launching of the N. D. L. new towboat *Cyklop* will take place at Kowloon Dock on Monday, 27th January, at 3.30 p.m. Mrs. Messner has kindly consented to perform the launching ceremony. Launches to convey guests will leave Queen's Statue Wharf at 3 p.m.

WE have received the report of the Hongkong Land Reclamation Co. for last year, too late for publication *in extenso* in the present issue. The new profits for the year, including $349,841.05 brought forward from last account after paying all charges, amount to $368,135.09. It is proposed to pay a dividend of 7% on the paid-up capital, after providing for which and writing off directors' and auditors' fees, there remains a balance of $187,410.99 to be carried to credit of a new profit and loss account.

IT is with regret that we have to report the death which took place in hospital on Monday morning of Mrs. Hanson, wife of the Chief Detective Inspector. The deceased lady, who had been ailing for several months, was well known and held in high esteem by all who knew her. The funeral took place at Happy Valley last Tuesday morning, and was well attended. The number of wreaths that were visible at the graveside told of the esteem in which the deceased lady was held by her numerous friends.

HONGKONG'S SUBSIDIARY COINAGE.

PROPOSED LEGISLATION.

Following is the draft Bill based on law in force in the Straits Settlements for consideration of the Subsidiary Coins Committee:—

A Bill entitled an Ordinance to regulate the Import and Export of Coin into and from the Colony.

Be it enacted by the Governor of Hongkong, with the advice and consent of the Legislative Council thereof, as follows:—

1. This Ordinance may be cited as *The Coinage Ordinance, 1907.*

2. For the purposes of this Ordinance the term "banker" shall mean any corporation carrying on the business of bankers or financial agents in the Colony and the term "money-changer" shall mean a person who carriers on the business of money-changing as his chief business.

3.—(1.) Subject to the approval of a Secretary of State it shall be lawful for the Governor in Council by Order to prohibit the importation into the Colony of such coins whether legal tender within the Colony or not as are in such Order specified.

(2.) It shall be lawful for the Governor in Council subject to the like approval by Order to prohibit the exportation from the Colony of such coins being legal tender within the Colony as are in such Order specified.

(3.) It shall be lawful for the Governor in Council by Order to prohibit the circulation in the Colony of such foreign coins not being legal tender within the Colony as are in such Order specified.

(4.) It shall be lawful for the Governor in Council by Order to exempt any Country or State from the operation of any Order prohibiting the import into or export from the Colony of such coin as are in such Order specified.

4. Every such Order may subject to the like approval be rescinded or varied in such manner as the Governor in Council may see fit.

5. Every such Order shall be published in the *Gazette* and shall not come into force until so published.

6.—(1.) If any person in contravention of any such Order import or export or attempt to import or export any coin in such Order specified to the amount of five dollars in nominal value or upwards in the case of copper or bronze coin or of twenty-five dollars in nominal value or upwards in the case of silver coin he shall be liable on conviction before a *Magistrate* to a fine not exceeding one thousand dollars and any coin so imported or exported or attempted to be imported or exported in contravention of any such Order shall be forfeited.

(2.) In any case in which it has been proved to the satisfaction of a Court that coin has been exported in contravention of any such Order as aforesaid it may impose in addition to the fine authorised by this section a further penalty not exceeding the amount or value of the coin so found to have been exported.

(3.) The provisions of this section shall not apply to any coin imported under a licence in writing under the hand of the Colonial Secretary or of any officer appointed in that behalf by the Governor. Every such licence shall specify the terms on which such coin may be imported or exported as the case may be.

(4.) Any person importing or exporting coin under the provisions of any such licence shall be bound to comply with the terms in such licence specified and any person importing or exporting coin in contravention of the terms of such licence shall be liable on conviction before a *Magistrate* to a fine not exceeding one thousand dollars and any coin imported or exported in contravention of the terms of such licence shall be forfeited. The provision contained in sub-section (2) of this section as to coin exported in contravention of the terms of any such licence.

(5.) If any person shall in contravention of any such Order circulate or attempt to circulate any coin in such Order specified he shall be liable on summary conviction to a fine not exceeding twenty-five dollars and the coin shall be forfeited.

(6.) For the purposes of this section a person is not deemed to circulate coin who gives such coin to a banker or money-changer in exchange for other coins or for notes.

(7.) In this section the expression "person" includes any Company or Association or body of persons whether incorporated or not.

7. Any coin the circulation of which in the Colony is for the time being prohibited by any such Order as aforesaid found within the Colony otherwise than in the possession of a banker or money-changer after the expiration of thirty days from the publication in the *Gazette* of such Order may if it amounts to the nominal value of five dollars or upwards in the case of copper or bronze coin or twenty-five dollars or upwards in the case of silver coin be forfeited and may be seized without warrant, by any Police Officer and detained pending adjudication.

8. A justice of the peace if satisfied by sworn information in writing that there is good cause to believe that any coin which has been imported or is in the act of being imported or exported in contravention of any such Order as aforesaid is likely to be found in any place to the nominal value of fifty dollars or upwards may by warrant under his hand direct any public officer named or specified therein to enter such place and search the same and seize all coin or coins found therein the import or export of which is for the time being prohibited as aforesaid and detain the same pending adjudication.

9. Any person found offending against the provisions of this Ordinance may be arrested by any Police Officer without warrant.

10. Forfeitures of the coin may be declared under this Ordinance:—

(1.)—by the Supreme Court upon information filed by His Majesty's Attorney-General; * * *

(2.)—by the convicting Court in all cases where a person is convicted of an offence against the provisions of this Ordinance in respect of such coin;

(3.)—by a *Magistrate* where no person is convicted and the nominal value of the coin does not exceed five hundred dollars.

11. The Court may direct any fine or portion of a fine imposed and levied under this Ordinance to be paid to the informer.

THE General Officer Commanding has authorised an increase of the Garrison Military Police by 1 N. C. O. and 4 men, from 13th instant, for duty at Kowloon.

FROM home papers received by the mail last Thursday we note the success of an ex-Queen's College scholar in England. We refer to Mr. S. L. Ho, who has just passed his first examination in his course of studies to qualify as a civil engineer. Mr. Ho was bracketted with thirty-five other students in the second class, only six having qualified for the first class. This young gentleman, who is a Hongkong boy, is pursuing his studies in St. John's College, Cambridge; he is a son of Mr. Ho Fook, the well-known compradore of Messrs. Jardine, Matheson & Co., Hongkong. Mr. Ho Fook has three other sons in England, all of whom are destined for the more liberal professions.

FORTHCOMING REVOLTS IN CHINA.

OLD MOORE AT HIS OLD TRICKS.

Old Moore has been at it again, predicting battle, murder and sudden death for all he is worth. When the old 'un wants to make the blood curdle into really first class whey, he performs the operation with the ease and facility of a Chinese sorcerer. Some people may ask: Does he never make a mistake? but Old M. absolutely declines to answer frivolous queries, and as his clientele is made up of the very top-notch circles in society he has cultivated a solemn, high and mighty, scoff at your peril style which is calculated to give the common herd the trembles. But let us see what he says this year, as found in his *Messenger*, which he has kindly forwarded for our delectation:

"What will happen in 1908" is not a question when Old Moore submits it. Rather it is a sort of preparatory cough covering the aside with which he regales the initiated: "Watch me make them jump." So having prepared the way, he begins in the manner of the gramaphone after the preliminary wheeze: "A special forecast of the world's fate by Old Moore, the Prophet of Pilgrim Street." "Fate" not luck or fortune or anything cheerful but grim, ghastly fate; and he begins right merrily, "A critical year." Having made it perfectly clear that those who expect to hear anything funny, or have any claims on the government should vamoose, disappear and make tracks for the sunshine, the unregenerate old prophet remarks quite casually: "The year 1908 is likely to be a critical one in many respects." The ribald might fancy they could say that themselves, but those who asked: "How do you know?" could they follow it up with the remark that "1908 is Kaballistically under the influence of Mercury and is the 26th or last year of the cycle of the Planet?" Not they. And the genuineness of the whole thing is shown in this that Old Moore does not say the end of the world is coming, as he might easily have done, and as the gentle reader having properly frightened his hearers into fits might be inclined to do, but only speaks of the last year of the cycle which is a tee-totally different thing. It is pleasing to reflect that as the result of the wandering propensities of the heavenly bodies we are to be startled by the events which are going to occur "all over the civilised world." Does Hongkong come under that definition? for there are critics who "hae their doots."

In the beginning of January, our old friends Saturn and Jupiter had a slight tiff, a question about the fateful ring no doubt, and as the consequence Pres. Roosevelt, the Mikado—Old Moore still sticks to the ancient title, as who wouldn't when he can remember things the Emperor of Japan never dreamt of?—and the President of the French Republic are to have a bad time. "If this does not signify grave personal danger," says he, "then it will bring a danger of war," and serves them right too. Weren't Japan and America making faces at each other when Old Moore made his prediction, and didn't Teddy R. narrowly escape being injured by his own "big stick?"

"The death-rate will be very heavy. The position of Neptune points to Socialistic tendencies in the Commons"—Neptune, we take it, being a polite name for the Old Man of the Sea—"and to disputes and involved action therein." It is as easy as falling off a log for Old Moore to prophesy—he has the gift, or the trick if you like. Anybody could say: "In January a heavy cloud will hang over Hongkong. The Governor will distribute several prizes to budding geniuses who will pay more attention to the headmaster's instrument of torture than to their lessons. With luck the Government will issue its report on subsidiary coins but owing to the Kabbalistic signs nothing will happen for a time, and perhaps not then. Through the influence of Neptune, the dollar will fluctuate very seriously, and Government pyramidons will rejoice thereat while the public counts its cash." And so on, *ad infinitum*. But there is not the true ring about those predictions. Listen to Old Moore instead:

"In the Eastern States, Mars and Saturn"—these two are always hanging about in company—"Mars and Saturn will be culminating at the eclipse and this is an augury of terrible disasters; either of an earthquake, violent hurricane or tidal wave off the coasts." Well, it is perfectly certain that Old Moore's prediction will come true for even if the three combined fail the newspapers of the great U.S. will do their best to help him along.

But what we in the Far East are anxious to hear about is not what's going to happen to the U.S. but to us. Old Moore is obliging as usual and vivaciously states: "At Tokyo the luminaries will be rising, pointing to great excitement among the people, turbulent scenes and much unrest. Neptune's setting shows treachery from foreign powers, the breach of a treaty and an involved state of affairs with other countries. It seems to us that if Neptune doesn't take care of himself he will be hurt. Then—"The Mikado" will be in danger and should guard his life and person. Serious accidents are threatened in the Empire" So much for Buckingham. "In China, in and about E. Long. 104 to 108, seismic troubles are threatened for Mars and Saturn are in the nadir in this locality. A revolt against authority may be expected." Now that is something like business. A revolt in China! Who could have told the old man, and why didn't he mention that the missionaries will have to flee for their lives? In July China is to suffer from "outrages and rapine," but there is no mention of the West River. "Look out for June 16th!" is the warning given by Old Moore and we leave it at that. But is it not high time that somebody took Neptune, Mars and Saturn in hand and gave them a taste of the stocks?

In conclusion let us give Old Moore's hint about to-morrow: "An evil day for all things; keep very quiet."

FRESH cases of smallpox at Kobe exceed one hundred daily.

H.M. destroyer *Otter* returned to Canton last Saturday morning to rejoin the West River Flotilla.

THE *Chinese Engineering & Mining Co., Ltd.*, announces that the total output of the Company's three mines for the week ending January 4, 1908, amounted to 21,276.06 tons and the sales during the same period to 16,943.84 tons.

THE United States Consul at Tairen has stated that he sees no reason for corroborating Dr. Morrison's criticisms on Japan's policy in Manchuria. It would be still inopportune, he added, to criticise Manchurian railway arrangements.

AT the last meeting of the Public Works Committee, the Chairman explained that it was intended to locate the statue of the Duke of Connaught permanently in the position which it now occupies opposite Blake Pier and that, as the pedestal on which it stands is not considered a suitable one, it had been proposed to provide a new one. He submitted three designs, marked A, B and C. Members unanimously agreed to recommend that the design marked C be adopted.

RAUB GOLD MINE.

The General Manager's report on the above Mine for December states that the Mine measurements and assay results of prospecting work show a total of 594 feet for the period (4 weeks) under review, made up of 25 feet sinking, 134 feet of driving, 319 feet crosscutting and 96 feet of surface prospecting, as against a total of 230 for the previous four weeks.

MINES.

B. K. man. 540 Level Main Crosscut East:—This has been extended from 80 feet to 107 feet. The lode was struck at 90 feet which proved to be 60 in. wide, rather mixed and low grade, subsequent driving shows an improvement. The crosscut is being continued.

440 feet Level Drive South:—This end has been driven 11 feet bringing the total to 353 feet. The lode 54 in. wide assays 5¾ dwt.

440 feet Level North Drive South on Footwall Portion.—To this has been added 10 feet making a total of 97 feet.

The lode 62 in. wide is worth 3 dwt. per ton.

340 feet Level South.—The mid-level above this drive has been taken to 161 feet making a total of 16 feet.

The good bunch worked on last month has pinched out.

340 feet Level South Drive South from Winze below.—This was started early in the month at about 50 feet down the No. 1. Winze and taken 13 feet, Southward, its object is to prospect a bunch of stone below the 340 feet level.

340 feet Level North Drive on Hanging Wall Portion.—Here 10 feet has been driven making a total of 179 feet. The lode 62 in. gives a value of 6¾ dwt.

240 feet Level North Drive on Hanging Wall Branch.—This has been advanced 13 feet making a total of 121 feet. The lode 68 in. wide assays 4 dwt.

Cross cutting for stope filling.—172 feet.

Stopes.—The following have been in operation.

Above the 440 feet level; 1 stope, lode 90 in. wide worth 5 dwt.

Above the 340 feet level; 2 stopes, lode 94 in. wide worth 4¾ dwt.

Above the 240 feet level; 2 stopes, lode 87 in. wide worth 2 dwt.

STOPE MINE.

160 feet Level Drive South.—This has been advanced 29 feet bringing the total to 525 feet. The lode 78 in. wide assays 13 dwt.

160 feet Level North.—The drive has not been worked during the month.—The crosscut west has been taken 24 feet making a total of 31 feet without showing anything new.

60 feet Level South, Intermediate Winze.—This has been sunk 25 feet. It is intended to connect with the stope below and to leave a pillar of poor ground.

Cross cutting for stope filling.—116 feet.

Stopes.—Above the 160 feet level, 2 stopes, lode 95 in. wide and worth 23¾ dwt.

B MALACCA.

No. 2 Level from No. 2 Shaft Drive South from Winze.—This has been extended 19 feet, making a total of 65 feet. The lode 48 in wide assays 10¼ dwt. The drive north from Winze has been taken 7 feet making the total 62 feet. The lode 48 in. wide assays 12 dwt. From a lode 54 in. wide and worth 8¾ dwt. 311 tons of ore have been won and sent to the mill.

No. 1 Level South from No. 1. Shaft.—This has been driven 16 feet, bringing the total to 150 feet. Odd bunches of quartz have been met carrying a little Gold. The waste has been used for stope filling.

Surface Prospecting.—Some 95 feet of driving and cross cutting on the surface has been done and some good bunches of ore uncovered.

General.—The Huntingdon Mill at Koman has been started, and is now in constant work [illegible] Cyanide leaching vat is being constructed. From the Wilfly Tables, 17 tons of Concentrates have been recovered, worth 3.14 ozs. per ton.

Milling Returns 4 weeks ending 28th December.

BUKIT KOMAN.

Stamps Working 40.

Period of Work 28 days less 1.3 days for Sunday repairs and clean up.

Ore Milled Bukit Koman 1562
Stope 1507 total 3069 tons.

Huntingdon Mill ran 18.28 days: lost time chiefly due to newness of machine. Crushing 105 tons. Koman Mine ore, 337 tons Surface Ore, and 118 tons old battery foundations. Total 600 tons.

Amalgam Recovered	2593.00	ozs producing
Retorted Gold	972.15	"
Smelted "	951.45	"
Average Yield per ton	1.59 dwt	
" Value of tailings	1.34	"

BUKIT MALACCA.

No 1 Mill ran 25½ } Crushing 311 tons mine
No 11 " 25½ } ore and 1715 tons surface ore.

Total Tons.	2026	
Amalgam Recovered	471 ozs	producing.
Retorted Gold	184 oz	"
Smelted "	178.5 oz	
Average Yield per ton	1.76 dwt	
Total Tons Crushed	5695	
" Amalgam	3064	
" Smelted Gold	1130.25 oz	
Average Fineness	930.15	
" Yield per ton	3.97 dwt.	

W. H. MARTIN,
General Manager.

HALF crews have been selected at the Medway depôt for the relief of half of the crews serving in the armed shallow-draught steamers *Sandpiper*, *Teal*, *Woodcock*, and *Robin* on the China Station. The ratings was to embark in the *Royal Arthur*, cruiser, at Portsmouth on January 14 for passage to China.

THE trial of the four men, who are charged with conspiring to defraud the Po Sang Bank of $502, and also with attempting to defeat the course of law in conspiring to secure a judgment at the Supreme Court for themselves against the Po Sang Bank, as previously reported in these columns, began at the Criminal Sessions last Wednesday morning.

AS the result of fishing with the aid of dynamite three days ago, a Chinaman named Wong Ip Fok, was very seriously injured. On being received at the Government Civil Hospital last Wednesday, he stated that he had been fishing in Chinese waters, using dynamite instead of the orthodox lines, when a charge exploded in his hands. His right hand was shattered and had to be amputated above the wrist; his left hand was greatly bruised and he also received injuries to his face and head.

AN unemployed Indian, who was formerly engaged on the Railway, was received at the Government Civil Hospital last Wednesday suffering from wounds on the head and stomach. It is believed that he became insane and having decided to commit suicide he hacked himself on the head inflicting seven scalp wounds. Finding that method of quitting life too laborious, he obtained a knife and lightly stabbed himself on the stomach. None of the wounds were serious and after being attended to the would-be suicide was sent to the asylum.

CANTON DAY BY DAY.

ATTEMPTED VILLAGE ROBBERY.

[*From Our Own Correspondent.*]

Canton, 17th January.

On the evening of the 12th instant, a gang of about 150 robbers collected near the Tsi Tung village, in the vicinity of Fatshan, and were preparing to attack the Ha Kaw village, when the alarm was raised, and the soldiers stationed in the villages assembled and resisted the marauders, with the result that one of the "braves" was killed whilst three others were wounded. The robbers also suffered heavy losses during the encounter, and were ultimately forced to take flight without having ransacked the villages.

TO PREVENT SMUGGLING.

The Canton authorities have given instructions to the naval officers to despatch gunboats to cruise along the coast of the prefecture of Weichow, by way of which, it is learnt, the insurgents are intending to smuggle arms and ammunition into the interior of the province.

LIKIN COLLECTIONS.

The amount of likin collected in Canton for the first ten days of 12th moon as reported by the Canton Likin Bureau officials amounts to Taels 66,120.22.

RETURN OF GUNBOAT "FUK PO."

The Chinese Government gunboat *Fuk Po*, which was despatched to Pakhoi a few months ago, for the protection of that port, returned yesterday to port, and it is reported that this gunboat will soon be despatched to the West River to do patrol work.

18th January.

S.S. "SAINAM" CLAIM.

It is reported that H.E. the Viceroy yesterday handed over a sum of some $80,000 to the British Consul-General at this port in payment of the indemnity to the s.s. *Sainam* as compensation for loss sustained by her in the piracy which occuried two years ago.

PROPOSED SHIPPING COMPANY.

Yesterday a meeting was held at the headquarters of the Canton Self-Government League to discuss matters in connection with the West River patrol and the formation of the proposed shipping company. There was present a large attendance, included among whom were the Wuchow delegates. At this meeting the majority, in view of the fact that the transfer of the control of the inspection of machinery from the Customs authorities to Chinese officials has not yet been actually effected, decided to forward telegraphic petitions to the Ministry of Communications and Posts (Yuchuanpu) and other Ministeries at the Capital requesting them to assist the people of Canton to bring about the desire reform, and to have the right hitherto belonging to the Customs authorities of inspecting machinery of launches withdrawn, so that Taotai Wei Han may at an early date take up the appointment as inspector of Machinery of Chinese-owned steam launches. Telegrams to this effect were then drafted to be despatched to Peking and were approved of by all those present. The regulations and the prospectus concerning the flotation of the shipping company were passed around to the meeting and it was then decided to open an office on 8th day of the 1st moon in the coming year to attend to business in connection with the shipping company. At the meeting the representatives from Wuchow expressed their eagerness to see the proposed concern established at an early date and carried out with success.

REBELS IN ANNAM.

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs (Waiwupu) has wired to the Canton Viceroy that the French Government at Annam has consented to the Chinese Government's request to drive out any Chinese bad characters and rebels who may be taking refuge in that country.

DOCTOR KIDNAPPED.

Two days ago, a native doctor residing in Sai Chin close to Fatshan, was kidnapped by robbers who now demand a ransom of a sum of $5,000 for the release of the doctor. The doctor is a well-to-do individual and the robbers had long been planning to extort some money from him, but they could not devise any plan until two days ago, when two robbers called at the doctor's house with a sedan chair under the false pretence that his services were required to attend a sick patient. The doctor did not suspect them in any way, and hurriedly went off as requested in the chair. Yesterday the relatives of the kidnapped man received a letter from the robbers informing them of the fact and demanding the above sum for his release.

20th January.

MINT TEMPORARILY CLOSED.

The Canton Branch of the Imperial Mint has suspended work from the 15th day of this moon (the 18th instant) for the New Year holidays and will not resume work until the 15th day of the first moon next year. In consequence of this temporary suspension, the rate of exchange on subsidiary coins is expected to rise a little during the interval.

RETURN OF ADMIRAL LI.

Admiral Li Chun returned to port, on the 17th instant, from his second visit to the West River in connection with the patrol service there.

LADY CHANG'S BIRTHDAY.

To-day being the birthday of Lady Chang Jen-chun, wife of H.E. the Viceroy, all officials, both civil and military, of this city will call at the viceregal quarters to offer her their congratulations on the occasion.

DANGERS OF OPEN TRENCHES

The laying of the water pipes in connection with the water supply of the city by the Canton Waterworks Company in the different streets of the city has not yet been completed and is, thus causing obstructions to pedestrians and others. It is generally the rule that, at the close of the year, Canton is more crowded than at other times as people from various districts come to the city to do their New Year shopping, and to collect debts, etc. In consideration of these facts, the Canton Self-Government League has petitioned the Canton Police Department to order the Waterworks Company to suspend the work of laying down the pipes temporarily until after the New Year holidays, but the Police Department has not yet complied with the request. Last evening a fire broke out at about eight o'clock inside the city, at Tsze Yun Street, when the different fire brigades, on the alarm being given, at once proceeded to the scene to render assistance. When one of the fire engines and its firefighters were passing Ta Tung Street, the engine happened to fall partly into a trench which had been dug by the Waterworks Company, and one of the firemen also fell into the trench and sustained such serious injuries that he is not expected to live.

21st January.

RAILWAY DIRECTORSHIP.

It has already been reported that Mr. Lo Po-shun had been elected, at the meeting of the board of directors of the Canton-Hankow Railway Company the other day, as vice-president of the Company in place of Mr. Wong Shia-ping, who resigned his post some time ago. Mr. Lo however, at first declined to take up the appointment, and did so only when the directors presented him for the third time the

letter of appointment, yesterday. Now that he has consented, a telegram has been despatched to the Ministry of Communications and Posts (Yuchuanpu) confirming the election.

WEST RIVER PATROL.

The Inspector-General of the Naval Forces of Kwangtung, H.E. Li Chun, has now obtained, from the Canton high authorities, authority to build, in addition to the four light-draft cruisers that have already been ordered in Hongkong, another four light-draft steam-launches and twenty odd guardboats to be placed on the West River to secure an efficient patrol service in the waterways. These four proposed launches will be ordered in Hongkong and the guardboats in Kwangsi, and it is reported that these vessels will be all ready about the third moon of the coming year.

COMPENSATION.

With reference to the fireman who was severely injured in falling into the trench opened by the Waterworks Company for the laying down of the water mains, as reported yesterday, the company has now paid a sum of money as compensation to the injured man. The accident will be a warning to the Company, and it is to be hoped that there will be no obstructions to both pedestrians and others during the New Year holidays.

TELEGRAPHIC FACILITIES.

Telegraphic communications have now been installed between here and the district of Yun Ping by the Chinese Telegraph Administration.

JUNKS PIRATED.

It is now reported that, on the 12th instant, a number of junks carrying a large quantity of cloth from the interior to Fatshan to be disposed of, was pirated at Ying Sha Mei, near Fatshan, and goods to the value of over $10,000 were taken away by the pirates.

22nd January.

NEW GERMAN CONSUL.

The newly-appointed German Consul, Dr. W. Rossler, of this port assumed charge of the Consulate here on the 20th inst. The new Consul takes the place of Dr. von Borch.

CAPITAL OF KWANGSI.

A Peking telegram states that the Central Government has proposed to remove the capital of the province of Kwangsi from the city of Kweilin to the port of Wuchow, and has given instructions to the Governor of Kwangsi, H.E. Chang Ming-chi, to inquire into and report on the feasibility of the proposal.

The official seals of the various yamens of the city was closed to-day, when the transaction of public business will be temporarily suspended for the New Year holidays.

23rd January.

RAILWAY DIRECTORSHIP.

The Ministry of Communications and Posts at Peking has sent a telegraphic despatch to the Canton-Hankow Railway Company sanctioning the appointment of Mr. Lo Po-shun, who was elected Vice-president of the Company the other day.

YUMCHOW PEACEFUL.

A Yumchow correspondent states that, soon after the arrival of Admiral and Commander-in-chief, Chun Ping-chik, peace and good order were soon restored as Chun has carried out the work of reorganisation in a most satisfactory manner. Many persons of the different villages in that prefecture, who took part in the recent rising, have now delivered their arms and ammunition and other weapons to the Commander-in-chief and have surrendered themselves to him. When such persons were arrested, they were handed over to Chun who tried and questioned them in a calm manner and induced them to lead a proper life, which has brought about a peaceful state of affairs in the country.

THREATENED BLACKMAIL.

The villagers of Chat Pin, in the vicinity of Fatshan, within the last week or so, have received three letters in succession from robbers, each demanding a sum of $2,000, and should the money not be forthcoming, they threatened to attack the village. The people of that village have reported to the officials these facts and, in consequence, two guard boats have now been sent there to keep watch.

WATERWORKS.

A shipment of some 1,020 piculs of cast iron pipes recently arrived here from Hongkong for the use of the Canton Waterworks Company.

NEW BANK.

The Ministry of Finance at Peking has forwarded a despatch to the Canton authorities, together with a code of regulations governing the establishment of the local branch of the Imperial Government Bank, urging that the bank should be established at an early date. The initial capital of the proposed institution will be taels 1,000,000.

COMMERCIAL.

YARN MARKET.

In their report dated 24th instant, Messrs. Phirozsha P. Petit & Co. write:—

Our last circular was dated the 10th inst.

The tone of the Yarn market has been firmer during the past fortnight due, principally, to the attitude of importers in maintaining prices and refusing to quit stock at the low rates ruling at the close of the last mail. Coupled with this firmer feeling Chinese dealers have come forward with buying inquiries in order to average their previous purchases when rates were higher than those now ruling. The combined circumstances have brought about an advance in prices of from $1 to $2 per bale all round, superior favourite spinnings even showing a slightly higher appreciation in values.

With the near approach of Chinese New Year, business as customary is about coming to a temporary standstill. From after the closing of the present circular no transactions can be looked forward to until after the New Year holidays.

Native merchants and dealers are proceeding with the closing up of their books preparatory to the annual general exodus into the interior for the festivities in the country.

Given a steady silver market it is hoped that a moderately large consumptive demand from the country after the New Year holidays will lead to briskness in the yarn market, with better prices to importers than we have been accustomed to now for some time.

No. 20s.—Cheap prices induced business and sales are reported at an advance of $1.

No. 16s.—Not much in favour.

No. 12s.—Ruled firm, and sales well done at an advance of $1.

No. 10s.—Prices advance $1 to $2 and a moderate business transpired.

No. 8s. and 6s.—Nothing doing.

Market closes firm.

Sales:—1,925 bales of No. 10s., 1,925 bales of No. 12s., 50 bales of No. 16s., and 1,875 bales of No. 20s.; in all about 4,875 bales.

Arrivals:—Per steamers *Catherine Apcar*, *Namsang* and *Kinsang* (from Calcutta), and *Wakamiya Maru*, *Austria*, *Kagoshima Maru* and *Peninsular* (from Bombay) of about 3,000 bales.

Unsold Stock:—About 28,000 bales.

Uncleared Stock:—About 30,000 bales.

Exchange:—We quote to-day as follows:—

India	T.T.	at Rs. 143¼ per cent.
	Demand	„ „ 143¾ „
London	T.T.	„ sh. 1/10¾d. = $
	Demand	„ „ 1/10 25/32d. = $
Shanghai		„ Tls. 74½=$100.
Silver		„ 25 21/32d. per oz.

Writing under same date, Messrs. Cawasjee, Pallanjee & Co. report:—

Since the issue of our last report on the 15th inst., a smart recovery has set in after a long time. The early part of the fortnight under review experienced a gradually increasing demand from the interior for No. 10s, and an advance of $2 to $4 per bale was at once established. The market thus becoming strong, the native dealers have greatly helped in giving an impetus to the same by their re-appearance; and owing to the near approach of the Chinese New Year, a large number of settlements have been effected in well-known favourite spinnings, other threads which are generally less in favour have retained their usual rates. Favourable advices from Shanghai and Bombay have considerably strengthened holders, and all-round improvement is shortly expected. Meanwhile the market closes strong with an improving tendency.

No. 6s. and 8s.—In moderate inquiry at an improvement of $1 to $2 per bale.

No. 10s.:—Have been largely dealt in at an appreciation of $2 to $4 per bale, and the demand still continues for favourite threads.

No. 12s.:—Not much in request,—the prices generally being lower than those of No. 10s.

No. 16s.:—Have not been in great demand, and trifling sales have been effected at last quotations.

No. 20s.:—Prices of some special spinnings have advanced a dollar, and a moderate business has transpired at last mail quotations.

Sales during the past fortnight comprise of about 70 bales of No. 6s.; 75 of No. 8s.; 5,04? of No. 10s.; 1,375 of No. 12s.; 120 of No. 16s.; and 1756 of No. 20s.; in all about 8,436 bales. Arrivals per steamers *Wakamiya Maru*, *C. Apcar*, *Namsang*, *Kagoshima Maru*, *Austria* and *Peninsular* amount to about 2,365 bales. Shipment to Shanghai and Northern Ports of about 1,500 bales. The unsold stock is estimated at about 36,000 bales.

Local Mills:—Nothing doing.

Japanese Yarn:—Importations have been few, and business during the interval comprises of sales of 135 bales No. 20s, at $118 to $134 per bale.

Exchange:—We quote on India to-day at Rs. 143¾. On London at 1s. 1⅛d.

TO-DAY'S EXCHANGE.

Selling.

London—Bank T.T.	1/10⅞
Do. demand	1/10 15/16
Do. 4 months' sight	1/11⅛
France—Bank T.T.	2.40
America—Bank T.T.	46⅛
Germany—Bank T.T.	1.95
India T.T.	143½
Do. demand	143⅝
Shanghai—Bank T.T.	74⅛
Singapore—Bank T.T.	21⅛ % prem.
Japan—Bank T.T.	93½
Java—Bank T.T.	114⅜

Buying.

4 months' sight I/C	1/11 7/16
6 months' sight I/C	1/11⅝
30 days' sight San Francisco & New York	47⅛
4 months' sight do.	48⅛
30 days' sight Sydney and Melbourne	1.11⅛
4 months' sight France	2.46⅛
6 months' sight „	2.49
4 months' sight Germany	2.00⅛
Bar Silver	25 11/16
Bank of England rate	4 %
Sovereigns	$10.30

LOCAL AND GENERAL.

THE Bank of England rate has further receded to-day to four per cent.

RUSSIAN and German merchants in Harbin are organizing a big company with the object of ousting the Japanese tea trade.

THE annual meeting of the Hongkong Benevolent Society will take place at the City Hall, on Thursday, 30th inst., at 5.30 p.m.

THE British steamer *Zingara*, which went ashore at Moji on January 9th while on her way to Singapore, has been refloated.

A GAS explosion has taken place in the Yubari colliery at Hokkaido. Seventy miners out of 104 perished; sixteen others were severely injured.

AN old couple, residing at 224, Macdonnel Road, Yau-ma-ti, were mulcted in the sum of $50 each, last Saturday, at the Police Court, for storing explosives in their house and with being in possession of 26 sticks of dynamite without a permit.

CORPL. F. Barnes, of the R.G.A., prosecuted a coolie named Lam Mui at the Police Court, last Saturday morning, for trespassing. The coolie was found in Belcher's Fort on Friday afternoon admiring the scenery. He pleaded guilty to the charge and was fined $5.

MR. Murray promises a travel book of much interest. Its author, Mr. R. F. Johnson, formerly of the Hongkong Civil Service, who is British District Officer at Wei-hai-wei, made the journey from Peking to Mandalay, taking in the lesser known parts of Szechuan and Yunnan.

MR. Walter R. Clouth, the Chinese Imperial Maritime Customs, who is now home on long leave, has been graciously granted by the German Emperor the "Order of the Crown" (Kronen Orden IV. Klasse.) Mr. Clouth has many friends in China who will heartily congratulate him upon this well-deserved honour.

THE new Chinese Minister to St. James's, Li Ching Fang (Lord Li), received Major Henry Wright at the Legation on 21st ult., and like his three predecessors, Sir Chichen Lo Feng Luh, Chang Ta Jen, and Wang Ta Sieh, signed on Ambassadors' page of Major Wright's collection of autographs, in which Lord Li was much interested.

THE partnership between Sir Marcus Samuel and Mr. Samuel Samuel, trading under the style of M. Samuel and Co., having expired by effluxion of time, Sir Marcus Samuel has decided to retire. The firm will be continued under the same style by Mr. Samuel Samuel, who has admitted Mr. Walter H. Samuel and Mr. Walter H. Levy to partnership.

CHEUNG On, a "boy," in the employ of the Oriental Hotel, and Chin Chau, a cook, residing at Kowloon, were charged at the Police Court, last Saturday—the former with disobeying the orders of the manager, Mr. C. Frericks,—and the latter with being found in the servants' quarters of the hotel on Friday night without permission. It appears that the first defendant hadn't time to work on account of the visit paid him by his friend, the cook. They were both fined $5.

THE death is announced of Professor Janssen, the famous Directeur of the Meudon Observatory. Professor Janssen, who was eighty-three years of age, was decorated with the Royal Society's medal in 1877. We may recall that in 1868 he was sent to Java by the Ministry of Public Instruction and the Academy of Sciences. The practical results of that expedition won him the Lalande prize from the Academy. In 1874 he carried out a very successful mission to Japan, and on his return was invited to join an English expedition to Siam.

SHARE QUOTATIONS.

Supplied by Messrs. E. S. Kadoorie & Co. Corrected to noon; later alterations given under "Commercial Intelligence," page 5.

STOCKS.	NO. OF SHARES.	VALUE.	PAID UP.	POSITION AS PER LAST REPORT: RESERVE.	POSITION AS PER LAST REPORT: AT WORKING ACCOUNT.	LAST DIVIDEND.	APPROXIMATE RETURN AT PRESENT QUOTATION, BASED ON LAST YEAR'S DIV.	CLOSING QUOTATIONS.
BANKS.								
Hongkong & Shanghai Banking Corporation	80,000	$125	$125	£1,000,000 / $11,750,000 / $250,000	$1,797,167	£2.15/- for 1-year ending 30.6.07 @ ex 2/2 5/16=$16.04	14 %	$715 sales / $710 sales / new issue London £79
Do. (new)	40,000	$125	$125					
National Bank of China, Limited	99,925	£7	£6	£12,735 / $300,000	$71,293	$2 (London 3/6) for 1903	...	$51
MARINE INSURANCES.								
Canton Insurance Office, Limited	10,000	$250	$50	$1,560,000 / $219,058 / $421,959 / £125,000	none	$20 for 1906	8 %	$245
North China Insurance Company, Limited	10,000	£15	£5	Tls. 100,000 / Tls. 48,942	Tls. 204,424	Final of 7/6 per share making in all 15/- for 1906=Tls. 2.65	6 %	Tls. 87½ sellers
Union Insurance Society of Canton, Limited	12,400	$250	$100	$3,000,000 / £70,000 / $456,407 / £135,137.15/- / $417,628	$1,460,490	Final of $12 making $42 for 1905 and interim of $30 for 1906	5 %	$827½ sales
Yangtsze Insurance Association, Limited	8,000	$100	$60	$850,000 / $159,143	$391,520	$12 for year ending 31.12. 5	...	$150 / $137½
Do. do. (new)	4,000	$100	$60	$1,988 / $2,000,000				
FIRE INSURANCES.								
China Fire Insurance Company, Limited	20,000	$100	$20	$320,449 / $7,516	$362,980	$6 and bonus $2 for 1905	8½ %	$95
Hongkong Fire Insurance Company, Limited	8,000	$250	$50	$1,256,489	$435,230	$40 for 1905	12 %	$335
SHIPPING.								
China and Manila Steamship Company, Limited	30,000	$25	$24	$7,000	$365	1½ for 1906	6¼ %	$15
Douglas Steamship Company, Limited	20,000	$50	$50	$264,618 / $96,988	Nil.	$4 for year ending 30.6.07	10 %	$40
Hongkong, Canton & Macao Steamboat Co., Ld.	80,000	$15	$15	$250,000 / $550,000 / $86,989	$27,101	$1 for 1st half-year ending 30.6.07	6⅔ %	$29
Indo-China Steam Navigation Co., Ld. (Preferred)	60,000			£60,000				$39 / $27
Do. do. (Deferred)	60,000	£5	£5	£270,000	£3,694	5/- for 1906 @ ex 2/2½=$1.24 per share	3½ %	
Shanghai Tug and Lighter Company, Limited	200,000	Tls. 50	Tls. 50	Tls. 54,372	Tls. 13,327	Interim of Tls. 1½ for account 1907	12 %	Tls. 46 sellers
Do. (Preference)	100,000			£400,000			11 %	Tls. 50 sellers
Shell" Transport and Trading Company, Limited	2,000,000	£1	£1	£1,871	172,370	Interim of 1/- (Coupon No. 8) for a/c 1907	4½ %	44/-
"Star" Ferry Company, Limited	10,000	$10	$10	$65,000	$197	$2.00 / $0.50 for year ending 10.4.1907	4½ % / 4½ %	$24 buyers / $12 buyers
	10,000	$40	$5	$32,957				
Baku Tug and Lighter Company, Limited	30,000	Tls. 50	Tls. 50	Tls. 98,000 / Tls. 410,479 / Tls. 62,000 / Tls. 81,200 / Tls. 30,000	18,730	Final of Tls. 2 making Tls. 6 for 1906	12½ %	Tls. 47 sellers
REFINERIES.								
China Sugar Refining Company, Limited	20,000	$100	$100	$450,000	19,218	$8 for year ending 31.12.06	7½ %	$109 buyers
Luzon Sugar Refining Company, Limited	7,000	$100	$100	none				
Perak Sugar Cultivation Company, Limited	7,000	Tls. 50	Tls. 50	Tls. 100,000	Tls. 8,935	Tls. 4 (8 %) for year ending 31.8.06	5 %	Tls. 80
MINING.								
Chinese Engineering and Mining Company, Ld.	1,000,000	£1	£1	£15,000 / £84,398	£11,556	Final of 1/6 (No. 9) for 1907	7½ %	Tls. 15 buyers
Sub Australian Gold Mining Company, Limited	150,000	£1	18/10	£4,893	£11,358	No. 12 of 1/-=48 cents	...	$8½
	50,000	£1	£1					
DOCKS, WHARVES & GODOWNS.								
Fenwick (Geo.) & Co., Limited	18,000	$25	$25	$64,184	$10,335	$1.75 for year ending 31.12.06	12½ %	$15
Hongkong & Kowloon Wharf and Godown Co., Ld.	40,000	$50	$50	$110,000	$3,047	Interim of $2 for six months ending June 30th 1907	6⅔ %	$55 old / $53 new
Do. do. new)	20,000	$50	$50	$25,152 / $30,000				
Hongkong and Whampoa Dock Company, Ld.	50,000	$50	$50	$200,000 / $50,000	$401,580	$4 for 1st half-year ending June 30th, 1907	8½ %	$97 buyers
Shanghai Dock and Engineering Co., Ld.	55,700	Tls. 100	Tls. 100	Tls. 1,000,000	Tls. 10,459	Interim of Tls. 2½ for six months ending 31st October, 1907	4 %	Tls. 72 ex div. b.
Shanghai and Hongkew Wharf Company, Limited	36,000	Tls. 100	Tls. 100	Tls. 487,210 / Tls. 10,000 / Tls. 190,100 / Tls. 75,000	Tls. 23,117	Interim of Tls. 8 for account 1907	8½ %	Tls. 211 sellers
LANDS, HOTELS & BUILDINGS.								
Anglo-French Land Investment Co., Ld.	24,000	Tls. 100	Tls. 100	Tls. 15,000	Tls. 3,388	Tls. 6 for year ending 30th Jun. 08	6 %	220 sellers
Astor House Hotel Company, Limited (Shanghai)	50,183	$15	$15	$1,000	29,178	$1.80 for 1906	12 %	$14 buyers
Central Stores, Limited	12,000	$50	$50	$64,097 / 36,075	$10,925	$4 for 1st half-year ending 30.6.07	7½ %	$104 buyers
Hongkong Hotel Company, Limited	10,000	$100	$100	$250,000	$56,218	Interim of $3½ for half year ending 30.6.07	7 %	$100 buyers
Hongkong Land Investment and Agency Co., Ld.	40,000	$100	$100	$208,386 / $50,000	$21,567	80 cents for 1906	7½ %	$103 buyers
Humphreys Estate & Finance Company, Limited	100,000	$10	$10	$50,000	$1,089	$2½ for 1906	7 %	$35 sellers
Kowloon Land and Building Company, Limited	10,000	$50	$30	none				
Shanghai Land Investment Company, Limited	78,000	Tls. 50	Tls. 50	Tls. 87,693 / Tls. 170,000	Tls. 61,978	Interim of Tls. 3 for account 1907	7 %	Tls. 106 buyers
West Point Building Company, Limited	17,500	$50	$50	none	11,519	Interim of $2 for half year ending June 30th	8½ %	$50 sales
COTTON MILLS.								
Ewo Cotton Spinning and Weaving Company, Ld.	11,000	Tls. 50	Tls. 50	Tls. 150,000	8,807	Tls. 2½ for year ended 31.10.07	4½ %	Tls. 59
Hongkong Cotton Spinning, Weaving and Dyeing Company, Limited	15,000	$10	$10	Tls. 23,276 / $60,000	$14,269	50 cents for year ending 31.7.07	5 %	$10
International Cotton Manufacturing Company, Ld.	10,000	Tls. 75	Tls. 75	Tls. 150,000	Tls. 85,519	Tls. 6 for year ended 30.9.06 (8 %)	...	Tls. 55 sales
Laou-kung-mow Cotton Spinning & Weaving Co., Ld.	8,000	Tls. 100	Tls. 100	none	Tls. 31,469	Tls. 8 for 1906	...	Tls. 75 sellers
Soy Chee Cotton Spinning Company, Limited	2,000	Tls. 500	Tls. 500	Tls. 28,257	Tls. 50,663	Tls. 50 for 1906	...	Tls. 270 buyers
MISCELLANEOUS.								
Bell's Asbestos Eastern Agency, Limited	8,604	12/6	12/6	£1,299	£638	1/3 per share for 1906	9 %	$7½
Campbell, Moore & Co., Limited	1,200	$10	$10	19,000	3653	$3 for 1905	...	$10 buyers
China-Borneo Company, Limited	60,000	$12	$12	none	Nil.	$1 for 1904	...	$10½
China Flour Mill Co., Limited	4,000	Tls. 50	Tls. 50	Tls. 50,000	Tls. 889	Final of Tls. 5 making Tls. 10 for 1905	...	Tls. 58 sellers
China Light and Power Company, Limited	50,000	$10	$10	none	135,000	60 cents for year ended 31.12.06	...	$6
Do. Do. special shares	50,000	$1	$1					
China Provident Loan & Mortgage Company, Ld.	125,000	$10	$10	$115,000	855	80 cents for 1906	8½ %	$9½
Dairy Farm Company, Limited	25,000	$7½	$6	$50,000 / $5,000	12,974	$1.30 for year ending 31.7.07	7½ %	$17
Green Island Cement Company, Limited	400,000	$10	$10	$11,000	110,804	Interim of 50 cents per share for a/c 1907	8½ %	$11½
Hall & Holtz, Limited	21,000	$20	$20	$186,000	115,902	$2½ for year ending 28.2.07	11½ %	$21 buyers
Hongkong Electric Company, Limited	60,000	$10	$10	none	17,953	11 per share for year ending 28.2.07	6½ %	$15
Hongkong Ice Company, Limited	5,000	$25	$25	$105,000	14,361	Interim of $4 for 1-year ending June 30th '07	9½ %	$240
Hongkong Rope Manufacturing Company, Ld.	50,000	$10	$10	$65,000	14,282	Interim of 80 cents per share for a/c 1907	8 %	$25
Maatschappij tot Mijn-, Bosch- en Landbouwexploitatie in Langkat, Limited	25,000	Gs. 100	Gs. 100	Tls. 547,590 / Tls. 27,603	Tls. 10,374	Final of Tls. 7½ and bonus of Tls. 2½ making in all Tls. 32½ for 1907	8½ %	Tls. 394½ buyers
Peak Tramways Company, Limited	25,000	$10	$10					
Peak Tramways Company (new)	50,000	$10	$5	none	$2,655	$1 per sh. for period from 19th Oct. to 30th Apr. '07	8 %	$13 / $2
Philippine Company, Limited	67,500	$10	$10					
Shanghai Gas Company, Limited	24,000	Tls. 50	Tls. 50	Tls. 100,000	Dr. P. 34,324	None	...	$6 buyers
Shanghai Horse Bazaar Co., Ld.	5,400	Tls. 50	Tls. 50	Tls. 67,325	Tls. 7,990	Interim of Tls. 3½ for account 1907	7½ %	Tls. 108 buyers
Shanghai Pulp and Paper Company, Limited	4,500	Tls. 100	Tls. 100	Tls. 45,000 / Tls. 8,000	Tls. 3,354	Tls. 4 for 1905	...	Tls. 45 buyers
Shanghai-Sumatra Tobacco Company, Limited	30,000	Tls. 20	Tls. 20	Tls. 24,820 / Tls. 50,000	Tls. 7,843	Final of Tls. 5 and Tls. 10 for 1906	...	Tls. 68 buyers
Shanghai Waterworks Company, Limited	16,350	£20	£20	Tls. 190,000	Tls. 85,592	Interim of Tls. 5 for a/c 1907	8½ %	Tls. 122½ sales
South China Morning Post, Limited	6,000	$25	$25	none	Dr. $41,934	Interim of 25/- for account 1907 (old) / Interim of 21/5 for account 1907 (new)	...	Tls. 350 buyers
Steam Laundry Company, Limited	20,000	$ 5	$ 5	none	$478	None	...	$20
Tientsin Waterworks Company, Limited	2,000	Tls. 100	Tls. 100	Tls. 15,295 / Tls. 4,000	Tls. 201	40 cents for year ending 31.5.07	6½ %	$6 sellers
Union Waterboat Company, Limited	50,000	$10	$10	none	$349	Tls. 6½ for year ending 30.6.07	...	Tls. 97
United Asbestos Oriental Agency, Limited	20,000	$10	$4	$35,000	$1,360	First year	...	$12
Watson, (A. S.) & Co., Limited	90,000	$10	$10	$300,000 / $25,000	$5,482	80 cents on 9,000 ord. shares and $10.80 on 100 Founders shares for yr. end. 31.5.07	9 %	$10
William Powell, Limited	15,000	$10	$10	none	$41	Interim of 90 cents for account 1907	6½ %	$10½ buyers
						Final of 50 ctc. making 80 cts. for the year ended 30th June, 1906	...	$5½ buyers

* These shares are entitled to half of the profits.

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The Hongkong Telegraph.

(ESTABLISHED 1881.)

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Banks.

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RESERVE FUNDS ..... „ 15,550,000

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TOKIO.	CHEFOO.
KOBE.	TIENTSIN.
OSAKA.	PEKIN.
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HONGKONG:—INTEREST ALLOWED.
On Current Account at the rate of 2 per cent. per Annum on the Daily Balance.
On fixed deposit:—
For 12 months ..... 5% p.a.
„ 6 „ ..... 4% „
„ 3 „ ..... 3% „

TAKEO TAKAMICHI,
Manager.

Hongkong, 31st October, 1907. [23

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FISCAL AGENTS OF THE UNITED STATES IN CHINA, THE PHILIPPINE ISLANDS AND THE REPUBLIC OF PANAMA.

CAPITAL PAID UP .....GOLD $3,250,000
ABOUT MEX $7,222,222
RESERVE FUND .....GOLD $3,250,000
=ABOUT MEX $7,222,222

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NATIONAL PROVINCIAL BANK OF ENGLAND, LIMITED.
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„ 6 „ 4 „ „ „ „
„ 3 „ 3 „ „ „ „

No. 9, Queen's Road Central,
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W. M. ANDERSON,
Manager.

Hongkong, 23rd January, 1908 [25

THE CHARTERED BANK OF INDIA, AUSTRALIA AND CHINA.

INCORPORATED BY ROYAL CHARTER, 1853
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PAID-UP CAPITAL £1,200,000
RESERVE FUND £1,475,000
RESERVE LIABILITIES OF PROPRIETORS £1,200,000

INTEREST ALLOWED on CURRENT ACCOUNT at the Rate of 2 per cent. per annum on the Daily Balances.
On Fixed Deposits for 12 months. 4 per cent.
„ „ „ 6 „ 3½ „
„ „ „ 3 „ 2½ „

JOHN ARMSTRONG,
Manager.

Hongkong, 6th January, 1908. [29

NEDERLANDSCH-INDISCHE HANDELS BANK.

(NETHERLANDS INDIA COMMERCIAL BANK.)

ESTABLISHED 1863.

Authorized Capital Fl. 25,000,000 (£1,250,000).
Subscribed Capital Fl. 10,000,000 (Paid-up).
Reserve Fund ..... Fl. 2,112,570.36 (£176,048)

Head Office:—AMSTERDAM.
Sub-Office:—THE HAGUE.
Head Agency:—BATAVIA.
BRANCHES:—At Singapore, Sourabaya, Samarang, Indramajoo, Bandoeng and Weltevreden.
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Paris:—Comptoir National d'Escompte de Paris
Berlin:—Deutsche Bank.
Brussels:—Banque de Paris et des Pays Bas
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Rome:—Banca Commerciale Italiana.

THE BANK buys and sells and receives for collection Bills of Exchange, issues Letters of Credit payable in all important places of the world and transacts every description of Banking and Exchange business.
On Current Account at the rate of 2 % per annum on the daily balances.
On Fixed Deposits: 12 months 4 % per annum
„ „ 6 „ 3½ „ „
„ „ 3 „ 3 „ „

J. BORTJE,
Manager.

15, Des Voeux Road Central. [27

Banks.

HONGKONG AND SHANGHAI BANKING CORPORATION.

PAID-UP CAPITAL $10,000,000
RESERVE FUNDS:—
Sterling
£1,000,000 at 2/-=$10,000,000
Silver $11,750,000
$21,750,000
RESERVE LIABILITY OF PROPRIETORS $10,000,000

COURT OF DIRECTORS:
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Hon. Mr. Henry Keswick, Deputy Chairman.

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MANAGER:
Shanghai—H. E. R. HUNTER.
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ON FIXED DEPOSITS:
For 3 months, 2½ per Cent. per Annum.
For 6 months, 3½ per Cent. per Annum.
For 12 months, 4 per Cent. per Annum.

J. R. M. SMITH,
Chief Manager.

Hongkong, 16th January, 1908 [24

HONGKONG SAVINGS BANK.

THE Business of the above Bank is conducted by the HONGKONG AND SHANGHAI BANKING CORPORATION. Rules may be obtained on application.
INTEREST on deposits is allowed at 3½ PER CENT. per annum.
Depositors may transfer at their option balances of $100 or more to the HONGKONG AND SHANGHAI BANK to be placed on FIXED DEPOSIT at 4 PER CENT. per annum.

For the HONGKONG AND SHANGHAI BANKING CORPORATION,
J. R. M. SMITH,
Chief Manager.

Hongkong, 12th January, 1907. [28

DEUTSCH ASIATISCHE BANK.

CAPITAL FULLY PAID-UP...Sh. Taels 7,500,000

HEAD OFFICE—SHANGHAI.
BOARD OF DIRECTORS: BERLIN.

BRANCHES:

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Kobe	Peking	Singapore	Tientsin
Tsinanfu	Tsingtau	Yokohama	

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- Direction der Disconto-Gesellschaft
- Deutsche Bank
- S. Bleichroeder
- Berliner Handels-Gesellschaft
- Bank fuer Handel und Industrie
- Robert Warschauer & Co.
- Mendelssohn & Co.

Frankfurt a/M.:
- M. A. von Rothschild & Soehne
- Jacob S. H. Stern
- Norddeutsche Bank in Hamburg, Hamburg.
- Sal. Oppenheim jr. & Co., Koeln.
- Bayerische Hypotheken und Wechselbank, Muenchen.

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THE UNION OF LONDON AND SMITH'S BANK, LIMITED.
DEUTSCHE BANK (BERLIN), LONDON AGENCY.
DIRECTION DER DISCONTO GESELLSCHAFT.

INTEREST allowed on Current Account. DEPOSITS received on terms which may be learned on application. Every description of Banking and Exchange business transacted.

A. KOEHN,
Manager.

Hongkong, 4th December, 1907. [30

NEDERLANDSCHE HANDEL-MAATSCHAPPIJ.
(Netherlands Trading Society.)

ESTABLISHED 1824.

PAID-UP CAPITAL Fl. 45,000,000 (£3,750,000).
RESERVE FUND Fl. 5,378,375 (about £448,000).

Head Office—AMSTERDAM.
Head Agency—BATAVIA.

BRANCHES:—Singapore, Penang, Shanghai, Rangoon, Samarang, Sourabaya, Cheribon, Tegal, Pecalongan, Pasoeroean, Tjilatjap, Padang, Medan (Deli), Palembang, Kota-Radja (Acheen), Bandjermasin.
Correspondents at Macassar, Bombay, Colombo, Madras, Pondicherry, Calcutta, Bangkok, Saigon, Haiphong, Hanoi, Amoy, Yokohama, Kobe, Melbourne, Sydney, New York, San Francisco, &c.

LONDON BANKERS:
THE UNION OF LONDON AND SMITHS BANK, LIMITED.

THE Bank buys and sells and receives for collection Bills of Exchange, issues letters of credit on its Branches and correspondents in the East, on the Continent, in Great Britain, America, and Australia, and transacts banking business of every description.

INTEREST ALLOWED.
On Current Accounts 2% per annum on daily balances.
Fixed Deposits 12 months 4½% per annum.
Do. 6 do. 4% do.
Do. 3 do. 3½% do.

J. L. VAN HOUTEN,
Agent.

Hongkong, 18th November, 1907 [26

Hotel.

HONGKONG HOTEL.

FIRST CLASS AND UP-TO-DATE.

Military Band during dinner on Saturday Nights.

A. F. DAVIES,
Manager.

Hongkong, 8th June, 1907.

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PENINSULAR AND ORIENTAL STEAM NAVIGATION COMPANY.

FOR	STEAMERS	TO SAIL ON	REMARKS.
LONDON, &c., via usual Ports of Call	ARCADIA ..... Capt. A. L. Valentini	25th Jan., Noon.	See Special Advertisement.
SHANGHAI, MOJI, KOBE & YOKOHAMA	SOCOTRA ..... Capt. W. R. Hickey	About 29th Jan.	Freight only.
LONDON and ANTWERP ...	SUNDA ..... Capt. G. M. Montford, R.N.R.	About 29th Jan.	Freight and Passage.
SHANGHAI, MOJI, KOBE & YOKOHAMA	NUBIA ..... Capt. F. J. Fox, R.N.R. ...	About 2nd Feb.	Freight and Passage.

For Further Particulars, apply to

E. A. HEWETT, Superintendent.

Hongkong, 24th January, 1908. [7

Intimations.

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LADIES' DEPARTMENT,

Jan. 27th to 31st inclusive.

COSTUMES, HATS, SKIRTS,
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LANE, CRAWFORD & CO.

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AND

BASS PALE ALE,

"HORSEHEAD" BRAND.

IN QUARTS, PINTS, AND SPLITS.

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CALDBECK, MACGREGOR & CO.,
WINE AND SPIRIT MERCHANTS.

Hongkong, 2nd December, 1907. [40

CHAMPAGNE.

G. H. MUMM & CO.

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EXTRA DRY (Gout Americain).
BRUT (Cordon Rouge).

Sales in the United States exceed the total of all other Brands.

Served in all Clubs and First-class Hotels, and obtainable at all Wine Merchants in the Colony, and from Shewan, Tomes & Co., sole agents. [42

Hotel.

VICTORIA HOTEL,
(TELEGRAMS—VICTORIA—SHAMEEN),
SHAMEEN, CANTON,
ON THE BRITISH CONCESSION.
H. HAYNES,
Manager.

MACAO HOTEL,
(TELEGRAMS—FARMER—MACAO)
MACAO, CHINA,
IN THE CENTRE OF THE PRAIA GRANDE.
Capt. J. AUSTIN,
Manager.

BOTH HOTELS ELECTRICALLY LIGHTED AND UNDER EXPERIENCED EUROPEAN MANAGEMENT.

EVERY COMFORT AND CONVENIENCE FOR RESIDENTS AND TOURISTS.

Wm. FARMER, Proprietor.

Shipping—Steamers

HONGKONG, CANTON, MACAO AND WEST RIVER STEAMERS.

JOINT SERVICE OF
THE HONGKONG, CANTON AND MACAO STEAMBOAT CO., LTD., AND
THE CHINA NAVIGATION COMPANY, LTD.

HONGKONG-CANTON LINE.

S.S. "HONAM" 2,363 Tons, "POWAN" 2,338 Tons, "FATSHAN" 2,260 Tons, "KINSHAN" 1,995 Tons, "HEUNGSHAN" 1,998 Tons.

Departures from HONGKONG to CANTON daily at 8 A.M. (Sunday excepted), 10 P.M. (Saturday excepted).

Departures from CANTON to HONGKONG daily at 8 A.M. and 5 P.M. (Sunday excepted).

The S.S. "POWAN" will leave Hongkong every Monday, Wednesday and Friday at 9 P.M. from Queen Street Wharf West, returning from Canton every Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday, at 5 P.M.

These Steamers, carrying His Majesty's Mails, are the largest and fastest on the River.

Special attention is drawn to their Superior Saloon and Cabin Accommodation.

SERVICE OF THE HONGKONG, CANTON AND MACAO STEAMBOAT CO., LTD.

HONGKONG-MACAO LINE.

S.S. "SUI-AN" 1,651 Tons and "SUI-TAI" 1,651 Tons.

Departures from Hongkong to Macao on week days at 8 A.M. from Douglas Wharf and at 2 P.M. from the Company's Wharf.

On Sundays Special Cheap Excursions as per particulars at foot.

Departures from Macao to Hongkong on week days at 7.30 A.M. and 2 P.M.

JOINT SERVICE OF
HONGKONG, CANTON AND MACAO STEAMBOAT CO., LTD.,
THE CHINA NAVIGATION COMPANY, LTD., AND THE INDO-CHINA STEAM NAVIGATION COMPANY, LTD.

CANTON-WUCHOW LINE.

S.S. "SAINAM," 588 Tons, and "NANNING," 569 Tons.

One of the above steamers leaves Canton for Wuchow every Monday, Wednesday and Friday, at about 8 A.M., and the other leaves Wuchow for Canton on the same days at 8.30 A.M. Round trips take about 5 days. These vessels have Superior Cabin Accommodation and are lighted throughout by electricity.

EXCURSION TO MACAO.

ON SUNDAYS, the Company's Steamship "SUI-AN" will depart from Douglas Wharf at 9 A.M. Returning from Macao at 5 P.M.

Popular Excursion Rates as usual.

N.B.—The Company also runs a steamer from Macao on Sunday morning at 7.30 A.M. and from Hongkong at 1 P.M. from the Company's Wharf. This steamer connects with the returning steamer from Macao.

Further particulars may be obtained at the Office of the—

HONGKONG, CANTON & MACAO STEAMBOAT CO., LD.,
HOTEL MANSIONS, (FIRST FLOOR),
opposite the Hongkong Hotel. [6

Intimations.

One of the most prominent Medical men of China said:

"Where Bear Brand Milk is Known, the public will have no further complaint as to their milk supply."

For Sale at

LANE, CRAWFORD & CO.
THE MUTUAL STORES,
and all its BRANCHES.
A. S. WATSON & CO., LD.,
and the Agents—
F. BLACKHEAD & Co.

Hongkong, 2nd October, 1907. [32

NOTICE.

THE only Edition of the RACE BOOK and PROGRAMMES authorized by the Stewards of the Jockey Club are those printed by Messrs. NORONHA & Co.

T. F. HOUGH,
Clerk of the Course.

Hongkong, 17th January, 1908. [137

COLD STORAGE.

THE HONGKONG ICE COMPANY, LTD., have now 40,000 Cubic feet of COLD STORAGE available at QUARRY POINT. Stores will be Open at 10 A.M. and 4 P.M. daily Sunday excepted, to receive and deliver perishable goods.

WM. FARLANE,
Manager.

Hongkong, 22nd June, 1906. [61

THE CHINA PROVIDENT LOAN AND MORTGAGE CO., LD.

(CAPITAL PAID UP ..... $1,000,000)

Loans on Mortgage of House Property, &c.
Goods received on Storage.
Advances made on Merchandise.
Loans made on the Provident System.
(Rates and Particulars on application).

THE OFFICE OF
TRUSTEE, EXECUTOR OF WILLS, ATTORNEY, &c.
Undertaken and Executed.
SHEWAN, TOMES & Co.,
General Managers.

Hongkong, 2nd December, 1907.

Shipping—Steamers.

NORDDEUTSCHER LLOYD,

BREMEN.

IMPERIAL GERMAN MAIL LINES.

FOR	STEAMERS	TO SAIL
NAPLES, GENOA, ALGIERS, GIBRALTAR, SOUTHAMPTON, ANTWERP and HAMBURG	"ZIETEN" Capt. F. Prosch	WEDNESDAY, Noon, 29th Jan., 1908.
SHANGHAI, NAGASAKI, KOBE and YOKOHAMA	"KLEIST" Capt. Rud Meyer	About WEDNESDAY, 29th Jan., 1908.
MANILA, NEWGUINEA, BRISBANE, SYDNEY, and MELBOURNE	"PRINZ WALDEMAR" Capt. W. von Senden	THURSDAY, Noon, 30th Jan., 1908.
YOKOHAMA and KOBE	"PRINZ SIGISMUND" Capt. D. Lenz	About FRIDAY, 7th Feb., 1908.
KUDAT and SANDAKAN	"BORNEO" Capt. F. Sembill	Middle of February.

For further Particulars, apply to

NORDDEUTSCHER LLOYD.
MELCHERS & CO.,
GENERAL AGENTS, HONGKONG & CHINA.

Hongkong, 16th January, 1908. [8

WEST RIVER BRITISH STEAMSHIP COMPANIES.

HONGKONG-WUCHOW LINE.

THE Steamers "LINTAN" and "SAN-UI"
SAIL FROM HONGKONG TWICE A WEEK AND COMPLETE THE ROUND TRIP IN 6 DAYS.
These steamers have Excellent Saloon Accommodation, and are Lighted Throughout by Electricity.
THE CLIMATE ON THE WEST RIVER DURING THE WINTER MONTHS IS VERY FINE AND EXHILARATING.
For further information apply to—
BUTTERFIELD & SWIRE,
AGENTS,
WEST RIVER BRITISH S.S. COMPANIES.

Hongkong, 2nd November, 1907. [17

REGULAR HONGKONG-CANTON LINE OF STEAMERS

OF THE

COMPAGNIE FRANCAISE DES INDES ET DE L'EXTREME ORIENT,

S.S. "PAUL BEAU," 1,900 tons, 14 knots.
S.S. "CHARLES HARDOUIN," 1,900 tons, 14 knots.

The speediest, most luxuriously appointed and punctual steamers on the line.
Departure from Hongkong at 9.30 P.M. (Saturdays excepted).
Departure from Canton at 5.15 P.M. (Sundays excepted).

These superb steamers carrying the French Mail are fitted throughout with Electric Light and Fans and were specially built for this trade. Excellent cuisine.
The Company's Wharf is at the end of Wing Lok Street (Tram Station).
Canton Agents:—Messrs. E. Pasquet & Co.
For farther particulars, please apply to—

BARRETTO & CO.,
Agents.

Hongkong, 5th April, 1907. [11

JAVA-CHINA-JAPAN LIJN.

REGULAR THREE-WEEKLY SERVICE
BETWEEN
JAVA, CHINA, AND JAPAN.

Steamer.	From	Expected on or about	Will leave for	On or about
TJILIWONG	JAVA	Second half Jan.	JAPAN	Second half Jan.
TJIBODAS	JAPAN	First half Feb.	JAVA PORTS	First half Feb.
TJILATJAP	JAPAN	First half Feb.	JAVA PORTS	First half Feb.
TJIPANAS	JAVA	Second half Feb.	JAPAN	Second half Feb.
TJIKINI	JAVA	Second half Feb.	JAPAN	Second half Feb.
TJIMAHI	JAVA	Second half Feb.	JAPAN	Second half Feb.

The Steamers are all fitted throughout with Electric Light and have Accommodation for a limited number of Saloon Passengers, and will take Cargo to all Netherland India Ports on through Bills of Lading.
For Particulars of Freight and Passage, apply to

JAVA-CHINA-JAPAN LIJN.
Telephone No. 375,
YORK BUILDINGS, 1st floor,
Hongkong, 20th January, 1908. [16

Dentistry.

TSIN TING.
LATEST METHODS OF DENTISTRY.
STUDIO AT No. 14, D'AGUILAR STREET.
REASONABLE FEES.
Consultation Free.
Hongkong, 20th June, 1902 [58

Dr. M. H. CHAUN,
THE LATEST METHOD
of the
AMERICAN SYSTEM OF DENTISTRY
32, QUEEN'S ROAD CENTRAL.
From the University of Pennsylvania, U.S.A.
Hongkong, 16th April, 1906 [59

Intimations.

THE YOKOHAMA DOCK CO., LTD.

No. 1 DOCK.
Length inside 514 ft. Width of entrance, top 95 ft.; bottom 75 ft. Water on blocks, 27.5 ft. Time to pump out, 4 hours.

No. 2 DOCK.
Length inside 1875 ft. Width of entrance, top 60.5 ft. bottom 45.8 ft. Water on blocks, 26.5 ft. Time to pump out, 2 hours.

THESE DOCKS are conveniently situated in Yokohama harbour and the attention of Captains and Engineers is respectfully called to the advantages offered for Docking and repairing Vessels and Machinery of every description.

The plant and tools are of recent patterns for dealing quickly and cheaply with work and a large stock of material is always at hand, (plates and angles all being tested by Lloyds' surveyors).

Two powerful Twin Screw Towboats are available for taking Vessels in or out of Dock, and for taking Sailing Vessels in or out of the bay. The floating derrick is capable of lifting 35 tons.

Steam Launches of Steel or Wood, Lighters, Steel Buildings and Roofs, Bridge Work, and all kinds of Machinery are made on the premises.

Tenders will be made up when required and the workmanship and material will be guaranteed.

The cost of Docking and repair work, will be found to compare favourably with that of any port in the world.

Telephone: Nos. 376, 506, or 681.
Telegrams, "Dock, Yokohama," Codes A. B. C. 4th and 5th Edt.
Liebers, Scotts, A. 1, and Watkins.

Yokohama, May 23rd, 1905. [39

IMPERIAL BREWING COMPANY,

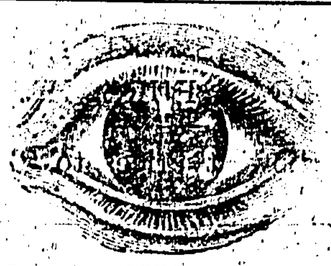
LIMITED.

PURE CREAM BEER.

For samples and prices please apply to

WINE GROWERS SUPPLY CO.
BARRETTO & CO.,
General Agents.

Hongkong, 22nd October, 1907. [45



EYES RIGHT!

N. LAZARUS, OPHTHALMIC OPTICIAN,
8, PEDDER STREET, HONGKONG.

WILL test your eyes free of charge, and if they are wrong will put them right.
Lenses Ground. All kinds of Repairs. Spectacles for all requirements.
Ask, or write, for Illustrated Booklet on "Defective Sight"—free.
LONDON, 21, John Street, Bedford Row, W.C. CALCUTTA, 59, Bentinck Street. SHANGHAI, 566, Nanking Road.
Hongkong, 27th November, 1905. [44

Hotels.

CONNAUGHT HOTEL,

HONGKONG.

A FIRST-CLASS EUROPEAN HOTEL,
SITUATED IN THE MAIN STREET NEAR THE BANKS AND PRINCIPAL OFFICES.
STRICTLY EUROPEAN MANAGEMENT.
Wines and Spirits of the very Best Quality.
Bath to Every Room.
Hot and Cold Water Throughout.
Hotel Launch Meets all Steamers.
Special Terms for Tourists and Parties or Families.
FOR TERMS APPLY TO—
THE MANAGER & AGENT.

2]

KOWLOON HOTEL,

HONGKONG.

NEEDS NO ADVERTISING.

World-Wide Reputation.
The only First-class Hotel in Kowloon.
Most Charming and Popular Resort in the Colony.
Electric Lights, Fans and Call Bells.
Bath Rooms attached to Each Room.
Unrivalled for Comfort and Cuisine.
Thoroughly Up to Date with Every Modern Luxury.
Billiards and Bowling Alleys.
Moderate Terms and No Extras.
Modern Management.

Telegraphic Address: "CHEF" HONGKONG.
Telephone No. 84.

O. E. OWEN,
Proprietor.

[4

HOTEL CRAIGIEBURN,

PLUNKET'S CAP, the PEAK, near the TRAM TERMINUS, Tel. 56.
For Terms, &c., apply to the MANAGER.

Hongkong, 2nd July, 1907. [85

THE P. & O. COMPANY AND ITS JAPANESE COMPETITORS.

Mr. S. R. Bomanji has addressed a letter to *The Times* with reference to Sir Thos. Sutherland's remarks at the recent meeting of the P. and O. Company regarding Japanese competition in the inter-Colonial trade, particularly between Bombay and Japan, which had been, to use his own phrase, "wiped out" by Japanese. Mr. Bomanji says:—

May I be permitted to point out that the sad position in which the P. and O. Company finds itself to-day is as much the result of its own supineness and the utter disregard of the interest and views of its enormous *clientèle* which has invariably characterised the company's policy. I very well remember the time when the Bombay-Japan cotton trade was in its infancy, and the P. and O. Company had the absolute monopoly of the carrying of this trade. This was in the early nineties. As the trade developed the want of facilities and the obstacles that were offered by the company in the shipment of cotton from Bombay to Japan were so great and vexatious that complaints were raised, but they were so little heeded that it is a marvel that trade at all survived. The rates of freight then in this trade were very remunerative, and comparing with the rates then ruling between Bombay and Europe, including the necessary heavy cost of the Suez Canal dues and working charges, they could be termed extravagant and exorbitant. But while maintaining this high scale of freight it offered no facilities, and responded to none of the demands of the growing export, and may be said to have thus done its very best to throttle and kill a trade which was bound to attain, as it has now reached, enormous proportions. It was a matter of common knowledge in Bombay that to secure freight by the P. and O. steamers in those days was a matter of great difficulty to shippers, and even when large stocks of cotton sold for export to Japan were accumulating in Bombay, the P. and O. Company did nothing to relieve the congestion by placing extra tonnage on berth for shipment. Shippers got thoroughly disgusted with such remissness on the part of the company, having to pay interest, insurance, and godown charges on cargoes already sold to Japan at current rate. In effecting such sales, these extras were not provided for, and the sellers had to make all these sacrifices simply because it did not suit the P. and O. Company to provide steamers to carry the large stocks of cotton which awaited shipment, and which could not be shipped by any outside available tonnage, as they were subject to a system of rebates which made the company's monopoly so absolute and effective. I remember one instance when there were nearly 40,000 bales awaiting shipment for more than two months, while the P. and O. Company, with supreme indifference, doled out shipping orders for small parcels in their China boats, instead of placing their own extra or other chartered steamers on berth to help the shippers. At this particular time cotton prices were fluctuating violently, and the shippers did not care to execute orders from Japan because they had no means of knowing what charges they would be called upon to incur before it pleased the P. and O. Company to accept their cargoes for shipment. This extraordinary state of things continued for some time, and eventually it became so intolerable that the cotton merchants in Bombay and their Japanese buyers put their heads together and started an opposition line of steamers. With the facilities thus secured by independent action the trade has now enormously developed. This is the plain unvarnished history of the Japanese competition that has "wiped out" the intercolonial trade which Sir Thomas at present laments, and of which only a few years ago he virtually held the monopoly. I submit the company will do well even now to look this fact in the face, instead of putting down its loss of the trade with Japan to circumstances which are not so much the cause as the result of his own remissness. I do not wonder that, even while writing this letter I see the Tokyo correspondent of *The Times* telegraphs that Sir Thomas's reference to Japanese competition has caused "profound surprise in Japan."

While on this subject of Far Eastern freights, I might point out that even now the P. and O. Company are pursuing the same fatal policy of disregarding the wishes of the Bombay millowners and merchants by raising the rates of freight on Bombay yarn to Hongkong and Shanghai, and this at a time when freights all over the world are steadily declining. Perhaps the company thinks that it can do this with impunity, as in this trade it and its conference lines hold a monopoly of the trade, but surely it has not forgotten that it also had a monopoly of the Bombay-Japan trade once.

My object in drawing attention to some of the matters dealt with in Sir Thomas Sutherland's speech is simply to do his company a service, and induce it to come into line with the views and needs of its best customers. But, while offering this criticism, it is a pleasure to me to acknowledge the vast improvement in the class and comfort of the vessels the company has placed on its passenger lines during recent years, and, as one who has made since 1889 more than 20 voyages by its various lines, I highly appreciate the increasing standard of comfort, civility, and attention to passengers which it has provided.

FABST BREWING COMPANY,
MILWAUKEE.

FRESH SUPPLIES
ALWAYS KEPT IN STOCK
BY
SIEMSSEN & Co.,
Agents for
HONGKONG & SOUTH CHINA.
Hongkong, 29th July, 1907. [51

Notices of Firms.

INTERNATIONAL SLEEPING CAR and EXPRESS TRAINS Co.
(THE GREAT TRANS-SIBERIAN ROUTE TO EUROPE.)

HAVING been appointed AGENTS for the above Company, we shall be pleased to give any information as to rates of passage, &c., in connection with above.

SHEWAN, TOMES & Co.
Agents.
Hongkong, 31st July, 1907. [47

NOTICE.

MR. CHARLES SASSOON GUBBAY has been admitted a Partner in our Firm in Hongkong and China from the 1st January, 1908.

E. D. SASSOON & Co.
Hongkong, 22nd January, 1908. [155

LUTGENS EINSTMANN & CO.

REMOVED from No. 2, Pedders Street to 8A, QUEEN'S ROAD CENTRAL, First Floor.
Hongkong, 23rd January, 1908. [144

Intimations.

SCOTTISH MASONIC QUADRILLE ASSOCIATION.

A REGALIA DANCE will be held in the CITY HALL on FRIDAY, the 7th of February. Dispensation to Wear Regalia for ENGLISH and SCOTCH MASONS has been received from the Dist. Grand Masters. No Invitations to this dance will be issued after the Fifth Day of February.

A Launch will leave the Star Ferry Wharf at 2 A.M. to convey Kowloon residents back.

JOHN J. BLAKE,
Hon. Secretary.
Hongkong, 22nd January, 1908 [153

HONGKONG CLUB.

NOTICE.

THE POST of COMPRADORE to the above Club becomes vacant on the 31st March, 1908. Applications to fill he same will be received by the undersigned up to the 31st January, 1908.

C. H. GRACE,
Secretary.
Hongkong, 8th January, 1908. [92

RACE BOOKS, 1908.

FOR SALE. PRICES:

LEATHER-COVERED .....$2.00 each.
CLOTH-COVERED ..... 1.75 "
PAPER COVERS ..... 50 "

May be had from
NORONHA & CO.,
Printers to the Hongkong Jockey Club.
KELLY & WALSH, LD.
W. BREWER & CO.
Hongkong, 18th January, 1908. [132

OPEN CYCLE RACE.

FIRST PRIZE:
New Humber Bicycle.
SECOND PRIZE:
Pair Dunlop Tyres.
THIRD PRIZE:
Pair of Inner Tubes, one Bell and one Lamp

ALL PRIZES PRESENTED
BY
THE DRAGON CYCLE COMPANY.

The Scratch Road-race for the above prizes will take place on CHINESE NEW YEAR DAY over a course to be announced later.

ENTRANCE FEE .....$3.

ENTRIES CLOSE ON JANUARY 31, WITH
THE DRAGON CYCLE CO.,
12, D'AGUILAR STREET.
Hongkong, 16th January, 1908. [164

Intimation.

Wm. Powell, Ld.,

ALEXANDRA BUILDINGS.

FOR THE RACES.

Novelties for SMART WEAR.

Fashionable DRESS FABRICS.

Dainty *Made-up* LACE GOODS.

Prevailing *Styles* in MILLINERY.

Newest FOOTWEAR.

WM. POWELL, LTD.,

DES VŒUX ROAD, Nos. 24 and 26, QUEEN'S ROAD.

Hongkong, 16th January, 1908. [18

Public Companies

THE HONGKONG LAND RECLAMATION COMPANY, LIMITED.

NOTICE is hereby given that the SEVENTH ORDINARY MEETING OF SHAREHOLDERS in this Company will be held at the Company's Offices, Victoria Buildings, on TUESDAY, the 28th January, 1908, at 11.15 A.M., for the purpose of receiving the Report of the Directors together with a Statement of Accounts for the year ending 31st December, 1907.

The REGISTER of SHARES of the Company will be CLOSED from TUESDAY, the 21st January, to TUESDAY, the 28th January (both days inclusive), during which period no transfer of shares can be registered.

By Order of the Board of Directors,
MOWBRAY S. NORTHCOTE,
Secretary.

Hongkong, 14th January, 1908. [127

THE WEST POINT BUILDING COMPANY, LIMITED.

NOTICE is hereby given that the TWENTIETH ORDINARY MEETING OF SHAREHOLDERS in this Company will be held at the Company's Offices, Victoria Buildings, on TUESDAY, the 28th January, 1908, at 11.30 o'clock A.M., for the purpose of receiving the Report of the Directors together with Statement of Accounts for the year ending 31st December, 1907.

The REGISTER OF SHARES of the Company will be CLOSED from MONDAY, the 20th January, to TUESDAY, the 28th January (both days inclusive), during which period no Transfer of Shares can be registered.

By Order of the Board of Directors,
A. SHELTON HOOPER,
Secretary to the Hongkong Land Investment and Agency Co., Ld.,
General Agents for the West Point Building Co., Ld.

Hongkong, 10th January, 1908. [104

THE HONGKONG LAND INVESTMENT AND AGENCY COMPANY, LTD.

NOTICE is hereby given that the TWENTIETH ORDINARY MEETING OF SHAREHOLDERS in this Company will be held at the Company's Offices, Victoria Buildings, on TUESDAY, the 28th January, 1908, at 12 o'clock Noon, for the purpose of receiving the Report of the Directors together with Statement of Accounts for the year ending 31st December, 1907.

The REGISTER OF SHARES of the Company will be CLOSED from FRIDAY, the 17th January, to TUESDAY, the 28th January (both days inclusive), during which period no Transfer of Shares can be registered.

By Order of the Board of Directors,
A. SHELTON HOOPER,
Secretary.

Hongkong, 10th January, 1908. [103

THE CHINA PROVIDENT LOAN AND MORTGAGE COMPANY, LIMITED.

THE ELEVENTH ORDINARY ANNUAL MEETING OF SHAREHOLDERS in the Company will be held at the OFFICES of the Company, St. George's Building, No. 6, Connaught Road, on WEDNESDAY, 29th January, 1908, at 11.30 A.M., for the purpose of receiving a Statement of Accounts and the Report of the General Managers for the year ending 31st December, 1907, declaring a Dividend and electing a Consulting Committee and Auditors.

The TRANSFER BOOKS of the Company will be CLOSED from SATURDAY, the 25th January, until WEDNESDAY, the 29th January, 1908, both days inclusive.

SHEWAN, TOMES & Co.,
General Managers.

Hongkong, 16th January, 1908. [134

NOTICE.

THE ANNUAL MEETING OF THE HONGKONG BENEVOLENT SOCIETY will be held at the City Hall, on THURSDAY, January 30th, at 5.30 P.M.

Hongkong, 20th January, 1908. [14

Intimations.

O. C. MOOSA,

1 & 3, D'AGUILAR STREET.

JUST UNPACKED A LARGE AND SPLENDID STOCK OF

FRENCH MILLINERY,

IN

VARIOUS SHAPES AND COLOURS.

SHOES! SHOES! SHOES!

IN

BLK. AND TAN GLACE KID

from the best American Manufacturer.

FLANNELS, TWEEDS, SERGES, Ladies' DRESSING GOWNS and JACKETS.

Samples on application. Coast ports orders carefully executed.

Hongkong, 3rd January, 1908. [60

NOTICE.

THE Public are hereby informed that no change has been made in the Rates of Subscription to the *Hongkong Telegraph* and they are warned against paying more than TEN CENTS (10 cts.) per Single Copy.

THE MANAGER,
Hongkong Telegraph Co., Ltd.

Hongkong, 1st January, 1908. 49

Auctions.

PUBLIC AUCTION.

THE Undersigned have received instructions to sell by

PUBLIC AUCTION,
FOR ACCOUNT OF THE CONCERNED,
TO-MORROW,
the 25th January, 1908, at 12 o'clock Noon, at No. 7, Pedder's Hill,
THE WHOLE OF THE
VALUABLE SUNDRY HOUSEHOLD FURNITURE,
THEREIN CONTAINED,
Comprising:—

SILK and PLUSH-COVERED DRAWING ROOM SUITE, TEAKWOOD OVERMANTELS with BEVELLED GLASS, a quantity of CANTON CARVED BLACKWOOD WARE, BRONZE BUSTS, ENGRAVINGS, TEAKWOOD EXTENSION DINING TABLE and CHAIRS, MARBLE-TOP SIDEBOARD with BEVELLED GLASS, DINNER WAGGONS, GLASS, CROCKERY and E.P. WARE, Double and Single WARDROBES with BEVELLED GLASS, MARBLE-TOP BUREAU with BEVELLED GLASS, MARBLE-TOP WASHSTANDS, ELECTRIC FANS and CHANDELIERS, &c., &c., &c.;

ALSO

A number of SILVER CANDLESTICKS, TRAYS, FLOWER HOLDERS, ORNAMENTS, COMBINATION IRON SAFE;

AND

One POLYPHON-CONCERTO and One SEMI-GRAND PIANO by Steinway & Sons, New York and Hamburg, with extra 3-Key Notes and Pianola-to-match (all in First Class Order and Condition).

Catalogues will be issued.

TERMS:—As usual.

HUGHES & HOUGH,
Auctioneers.

Hongkong, 16th January, 1908. [135

PUBLIC AUCTION.

MESSRS. HUGHES & HOUGH, Government Auctioneers, have instructions to Sell by Public Auction,

TO-MORROW,
the 25th January, 1908, at 11 A.M., on Board,
IN ONE LOT,
The well-known British River Steamer
"WING-CHAI,"

PRINCIPAL DIMENSIONS:

Length over all.....180 feet.
Beam amidship .. ..28 ,,
Depth.....12 ,, 6in.
Draft .....9 ,,
Speed .....2 knots.

ENGINE—Surface Condensing Compound Cylinder H.P. 23in., L.P. 46in., Stroke 30in.

BOILER—(2) Two 10ft. 6in. Diameter 11 ft. long, 2 furnaces each Steam pressure 125 lbs. Recently surveyed and found in good condition.

The Vessel is fitted with Electric Installation. Complete with all Engines and Gear, Anchors, Boats, &c., now lying off Hunghom Bay.

TERMS:—20% of the purchase money to be paid on the fall of the hammer and the Balance on or before the 30th January, 1908

A steam launch will leave Blake Pier at 10.30 A.M. to convey intending Purchasers.

Inspecting order can be obtained from the Auctioneers.

For further particulars, apply to the undersigned—

WILKINSON & GRIST,
Solicitors,
or to the AUCTIONEERS.

Hongkong, 22nd January 1908. [15

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT.

PARTICULARS AND CONDITIONS of the letting by Public Auction Sale, to be held on MONDAY, the 27th day of January, 1908, at 3 P.M., at the Offices of the Public Works Department, by Order of His Excellency the Governor, of One Lot of CROWN LAND, on the South of and adjoining Inland Lot 1568, Conduit Road, in the Colony of Hongkong, for a term of 75 years, commencing from 16th October, 1889, with the option of renewal at a CROWN RENT to be fixed by the Surveyor of His Majesty the KING, for one further term of 75 years

PARTICULARS OF THE LOT.

No. of Sale.	Registry No.	Locality.	Boundary Measurements. N.	S.	E.	W.	Contents in Sq. Ft.	Annual Rent.	Upset Price.
			feet	feet	feet	feet		$	$
1	Inland Lot No. 1783	On the South of and adjoining Inland Lot 1568 Conduit Road.	(As per sale plan.)				30,000 (about)	270	6,250

Hongkong, 20th January, 1908. [148

PEAK TRAMWAYS COMPANY, LIMITED.

TIME TABLE.

WEEK DAYS.

7.00 a.m.
7.30 a.m. to 9.30 a.m. ...Every 10 minutes
9.30 a.m. to 11.00 a.m. ...Every 15 minutes
11.30 a.m. to 12.45 p.m. ...Every 15 minutes
12.45 p.m. to 1.15 p.m. ...Every 10 minutes
1.15 p.m. to 1.45 p.m. ...Every 15 minutes
1.45 p.m. to 2.15 p.m. ...Every 10 minutes
2.15 p.m. to 3.00 p.m. ...Every 15 minutes
3.30 p.m. to 5.00 p.m. ...Every 15 minutes
5.00 p.m. to 8.00 p.m. ...Every 10 minutes

NIGHT CARS.

8.45 p.m. and 9 p.m., 9.45 p.m. to 11.15 p.m. every half hour.

SUNDAYS.

8.00 a.m. to 9.00 a.m. ...Every 15 minutes
9.00 a.m. to 9.30 a.m. ...Every 30 minutes
9.30 a.m. to 10.30 a.m. ...Every 15 minutes
10.30 a.m. to 11.00 a.m. ...Every 10 minutes
11.45 a.m. to 12.00 noon...Every 15 minutes
12.00 Noon to 1.00 p.m. ...Every 10 minutes
1.00 p.m. to 5.00 p.m. ...Every 15 minutes
5.00 p.m. to 6.00 p.m. ...Every 10 minutes
6.00 p.m. to 7.00 p.m. ...Every 15 minutes
7.00 p.m. to 8.00 p.m. ...Every 10 minutes

NIGHT CARS as on Week Days.

SATURDAYS.

Extra cars at 3.15 p.m., 11.30 p.m. and 11.45 p.m.

SPECIAL CARS by Arrangement at the Company's Office, ALEXANDRA BUILDINGS, Des Vœux Road Central.

JOHN D. HUMPHREYS & SON,
General Managers.

Hongkong, 7th June, 1907. [57

HONGKONG'S SUBSIDIARY CURRENCY.

PROPOSED LEGISLATION.

Following is the draft Bill based on law in force in the Straits Settlements for consideration of the Subsidiary Coins Committee:—

A Bill entitled an Ordinance to regulate the Import and Export of Coin into and from the Colony.

Be it enacted by the Governor of Hongkong, with the advice and consent of the Legislative Council thereof, as follows:—

1. This Ordinance may be cited as *The Coinage Ordinance, 1907*.

2. For the purposes of this Ordinance the term "banker" shall mean any corporation carrying on the business of bankers or financial agents in the Colony and the term "money-changer" shall mean a person who carriers on the business of money-changing as his chief business.

3.—(1.) Subject to the approval of a Secretary of State it shall be lawful for the Governor in Council by Order to prohibit the importation into the Colony of such coins whether legal tender within the Colony or not as are in such Order specified.

(2.) It shall be lawful for the Governor in Council subject to the like approval by Order to prohibit the exportation from the Colony of such coins being legal tender within the Colony as are in such Order specified.

(3.) It shall be lawful for the Governor in Council by Order to prohibit the circulation in the Colony of such foreign coins not being legal tender within the Colony as are in such Order specified.

(4.) It shall be lawful for the Governor in Council by Order to exempt any Country or State from the operation of any Order prohibiting the import into or export from the Colony of such coin as are in such Order specified.

4. Every such Order may subject to the like approval be rescinded or varied in such manner as the Governor in Council may see fit.

5. Every such Order shall be published in the *Gazette* and shall not come into force until so published.

6.—(1.) If any person in contravention of any such Order import or export or attempt to import or export any coin in such Order specified to the amount of five dollars in nominal value or upwards in the case of copper or bronze coin or of twenty-five dollars in nominal value or upwards in the case of silver coin he shall be liable on conviction before a *Magistrate* to a fine not exceeding one thousand dollars and any coin so imported or exported or attempted to be imported or exported in contravention of any such Order shall be forfeited.

(2.) In any case in which it has been proved to the satisfaction of a Court that coin has been exported in contravention of any such Order as aforesaid it may impose in addition to the fine authorised by this section a further penalty not exceeding the amount or value of the coin so found to have been exported.

(3.) The provisions of this section shall not apply to any coin imported under a licence in writing under the hand of the Colonial Secretary or of any officer appointed to that behalf by the Governor. Every such licence shall specify the terms on which such coin may be imported or exported as the case may be.

(4.) Any person importing or exporting coin under the provisions of any such licence shall be bound to comply with the terms in such licence specified and any person importing or exporting coin in contravention of the terms of such licence shall be liable on conviction before a *Magistrate* to a fine not exceeding one thousand dollars and any coin imported or exported in contravention of the terms of such licence shall be forfeited. The provision contained in sub-section (1) of this section shall apply in the case of any coin exported in contravention of the terms of any such licence.

(5.) If any person shall in contravention of any such Order circulate or attempt to circulate any coin in such Order specified he shall be liable on summary conviction to a fine not exceeding twenty-five dollars and the coin shall be forfeited.

(6.) For the purposes of this section a person is not deemed to circulate coin who gives such coin to a banker or money-changer in exchange for other coins or for notes.

(7.) In this section the expression "person" includes any Company or Association or body of persons whether incorporated or not.

7. Any coin the circulation of which in the Colony is for the time being prohibited by any such Order as aforesaid found within the Colony otherwise than in the possession of a banker or money-changer after the expiration of thirty days from the publication in the *Gazette* of such Order may if it amounts to the nominal value of five dollars or upwards in the case of copper or bronze coin or twenty-five dollars or upwards in the case of silver coin be forfeited and may be seized without warrant by any Police Officer and detained pending adjudication.

8. A justice of the peace if satisfied by sworn information in writing that there is good cause to believe that any coin which has been imported or is in the act of being imported or exported in contravention of any such Order as aforesaid is likely to be found in any place to the nominal value of fifty dollars or upwards may by warrant under his hand direct any public officer named or specified therein to enter such place and search the same and seize all coin or coins found therein the import or export of which is for the time being prohibited as aforesaid and detain the same pending adjudication.

9. Any person found offending against the provisions of this Ordinance may be arrested by any Police Officer without warrant.

10. Forfeitures of the coin may be declared under this Ordinance:—

(1.)—by the Supreme Court upon information filed by His Majesty's Attorney-General;

* * *

(2.)—by the convicting Court in all cases where a person is convicted of an offence against the provisions of this Ordinance in respect of such coin;

(3.)—by a *Magistrate* where no person is convicted and the nominal value of the coin does not exceed five hundred dollars.

11. The Court may direct any fine or portion of a fine imposed and levied under this Ordinance to be paid to the informer.

Intimations.

TONIC, RESTORATIVE, DIGESTIVE WINE
Very palatable.

Known throughout the world and prescribed in all cases of Anæmia, Debility and Convalescence, to young women, children and the aged. Invaluable in hot climates.

DOSE: One wine-glass after the two principal meals.

Each bottle of genuine VIN SAINT-RAPHAEL *bears, in addition to the registered trade-mark:*

(1) The WARRANTY STAMP of the UNION DES FABRICANTS.
(2) A METAL SEAL advertising CLETEAS.

CLETEAS *is a* MELISSA *and* MINT *cordial which surpasses all others by its purety and faultless preparation. To be taken on a lump of sugar.*

COMPAGNIE du VIN SAINT-RAPHAEL, Valence (Drôme-France).

GALDEBOOK, MACGREGOR & Co., Hongkong.

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Don't Worry. Don't Worry.

WHY WORRY?

CONSULT

PHAROS.

THE MYSTIC AND MODERN ASTROLOGER

YES, WHY WORRY?

About your Business, Health, Pleasures, Friends Abroad, your Love Affairs and Chances in Life.

Yes, Why Worry? Consult Pharos. He is able to advise you, Console you and Warn you. His ambition in this life is to help those in trouble, and must not be classed with the run of Palmists who use their *Supposed Gifts* to make money. Pharos is independent of this. Willing and able to help all in trouble and relieve their anxiety to the best of his ability and experience.

PHAROS HAS A MESSAGE TO YOU.

You are anxious to put your son to a business that will prosper. Will your daughter be happy in her married life? You are in love. Have I made a wise choice in mate? Shall I take a partner into my business? Should I be wise in going abroad? All these questions Pharos can answer and advise by the aid of astrology. Why not put this to the test. Send P. O. value 1/- and addressed, stamped envelope to—

PHAROS, DEPT. 14, 45 UNION STREET, GLASGOW

with your Birth-Date, Full Name and Title and Town or County of Birth if possible, upon receipt of same Pharos will send you a written Test Horoscope.

With the above Pharos will send you FREE a WRITTEN FORECAST OF YOUR FUTURE.

PICTORIAL POSTCARDS.

100 ASSORTED Scotch, English & Irish Views, etc. for 1/6.
1,000 " " " " Actresses, Songs, Animals, Lovers and Comic Cards for 15/-.
English and Continental Actresses, hand tinted real glossy Photographs 15/- per gross.
CHRISTMAS & NEW YEAR CARDS well ASSORTED parcel.
100 Cards for 5/- Value 1d, 2d, 3d, 4d and 6d each.
500 ASSORTED Cards for 20/-.
1 gross Jewelled Cards for 9/-.
Foreign or Colonial Stamps not accepted. Kindly send Money Order.

31] BRITANIA POSTCARD CO., 45, Union Street, Glasgow.

THE EASTERN CYCLE Co.
3, ARSENAL STREET,
WANCHAI.

BICYCLES--BICYCLES.

CHEAP SALE.

FOR A SHORT PERIOD ONLY.
COMMENCING FROM JANUARY 10, 1908.

MACHINES
FOR
LADIES and GENTLEMEN FITTED with 2 and 3 SPIT GEAR;
OF ALL
GRADES and GUARANTEED ENGLISH MAKES.

All Prices to suit individual requirements.

BICYCLE ACCESSORIES:
LAMPS (gas and oil), BELLS, TYRES, CYCLOMETERS, INFLATERS, SPANNERS, AND EVERY OTHER REQUISITE FOR CYCLISTS.

NEW BICYCLES FOR HIRE.

REPAIRS UNDERTAKEN. EXCHANGES EFFECTED.

THE
EASTERN CYCLE CO.,
3, ARSENAL STREET,
WANCHAI.

Hongkong, 15th January, 1908. [131

Consignees.

INDO-CHINA STEAM NAVIGATION COMPANY, LIMITED.

FROM CALCUTTA, PENANG AND SINGAPORE.

THE Company's Steamship

"KUMSANG,"

having arrived from the above Ports, Consignees of Cargo by her are hereby informed that their Goods will be delivered from alongside.

Cargo impeding the discharge or remaining on board after 4 P.M., the 25th inst., will be landed at Consignees' risk and expense.

No Fire Insurance will be effected.

Bills of Lading will be countersigned by

JARDINE, MATHESON & Co., Ltd.,
General Managers.

Hongkong, 23rd January, 1908. [10

Consignees.

S.S. "OCEANIEN."

COMPAGNIE DES MESSAGERIES MARITIMES.

NOTICE TO CONSIGNEES.

CONSIGNEES of Cargo from London ex s.s. *Medoc*, and *Cordouan*, and from Havre ex s.s. *Cordouan*, in connection with above Steamer, are hereby informed that their Goods, with the exception of Opium, Treasure and Valuables are being landed and stored at their risk into the hazardous and/or extra hazardous Godowns of the Hongkong and Kowloon Wharf and Godown Co., Limited, at Kowloon, whence delivery may be obtained immediately after landing.

Optional Cargo will be forwarded on unless intimation is received from the Consignees before Noon, TO-DAY, requesting it to be landed here.

Bills of Lading will be countersigned by the Undersigned. Goods remaining unclaimed after MONDAY, the 27th January, at Noon, will be subject to rent and landing charges.

All claims must be sent in to me on or before the 27th January, or they will not be recognized.

All damaged packages will be examined on MONDAY, the 27th January, at 3 P.M.

No Fire Insurance has been effected.

J. MILLET,
Agent.

Hongkong, 20th January, 1908. [14

NOTICE TO CONSIGNEES.

THE P. & O. S. N. Co.'s Steamer

"PENINSULAR,"

FROM BOMBAY, COLOMBO AND STRAITS.

Consignees of Cargo by the above-named vessel are hereby informed that their Goods are being landed and placed *at their risk* in the Hongkong and Kowloon Wharf and Godown Company's Godowns at Kowloon, where each consignment will be sorted out mark by mark, and delivery can be obtained as soon as the Goods are landed.

This vessel brings on Cargo:—
From London, &c., *ex* S.S. *Britannia* and *Banda*.
From Persian Gulf, *ex* B.I.S.N. and B. & P. S. N. Co.'s Steamers.

Optional Goods will be landed here unless instructions are given to the contrary before 6 hours.

Goods not cleared by the 29th inst., at 4 P.M., will be subject to rent.

No Fire Insurance will be effected by me in any case whatever.

Damaged Packages must be left in the Godowns for examination by the Consignee's and the Company's representative at an appointed hour.

All Claims must be presented within ten days of the steamer's arrival here after which date they cannot be recognized.

No Claims will be admitted for Goods that have left the Godowns.

E. A. HEWETT,
Superintendent.

Hongkong, 23rd January, 1908. [13

Intimation.

A. S. WATSON & CO., LIMITED.

THE GREAT POPULARITY OF Watson's E VERY OLD LIQUEUR SCOTCH WHISKY HAS BEEN ATTAINED BY ITS CONSISTENT EXCELLENCE OF QUALITY.

IT IS A PURE MALT WHISKY OF GENUINE AGE AND FINE MELLOW FLAVOUR.

Per Case - - - $16.50

A. S. WATSON & CO., LIMITED, WINE AND SPIRIT MERCHANTS.

ESTABLISHED A.D. 1841.

ALEXANDRA BUILDINGS.

Hongkong, 3rd January, 1908. 133

MADAME!

MARK THIS!!

BARGAINS!!!

Our Winter CHEAP SALE STYLISH & SMART GOODS.

FOR

11 Days Only

BEGINNING ON 20TH JANUARY.

The whole of our Winter Stock to be cleared at 25% off original prices.

Ladies' Costumes, Coats, Mackintoshes, Hats, Furs, Blouses, &c.

Children's Tailor Costumes, Reefer Coats, &c., &c.

FOR 11 DAYS ONLY.

MADAME FLINT,

MANAGERESS.

"THE CITY OF PARIS,"

No. 3, PEDDER STREET.

Hongkong, 18th January, 1908.

DEATHS.

On January 18, 1908, at Shanghai, J. C. CHAVES, aged 38 years.

On January 19, 1908, at Shanghai, ELIZABETH DINAH, widow of the late E. S. Ottoway, of Chefoo, age 60 years.

The Hongkong Telegraph

HONGKONG, FRIDAY, JANUARY 24, 1908.

KOWLOON-CANTON RAILWAY.

When Sir Matthew Nathan left the helm in favour of his successor he must have been sincerely grateful to a benign providence which permitted him to depart in peace before the financial difficulties of Hongkong became too insistent to be disregarded. We rejoiced in the coming of Sir Frederick Lugard, whose mettle as an administrator had been thoroughly tried and proved in another corner of the Empire, but we were fully prepared to commiserate him on the strain he would be called upon to undergo in the struggle to adjust the finances of the Colony to its actual needs and to the development of those works to which the Colony had been committed. If his Excellency ever entertained roseate visions of the golden and opulent East he must have been disillusioned almost immediately his attention was directed to the financial conditions existent in Hongkong. In practically every direction he found that it would be necessary to curtail expenditure and even minor matters of local importance must have had to go by the board in face of the stringency in the revenue, not to speak of the nebulous prospects of the future. One of the great works undertaken by the Government was the construction of the Kowloon-Canton railway, an undertaking which we firmly believe will prove infinitely valuable to the continued prosperity of the Colony when it is completed, although at present it is little short of an incubus on our narrow resources. That the members of the Legislative Council should have expressed surprise at the magnitude of the expenditure, comparatively speaking, demanded for the building of a line of some 22 miles in length, is not to be wondered at, and if the Government find themselves placed in a quandary they have only themselves to blame. In all other matters the Government have taken the Legislative Council freely and fully into their confidence, which, of course, means that the public obtained at least a passing glimpse of how their hard-earned money was being spent. But the Kowloon-Canton railway operations established an unfortunate precedent of secrecy and disregard of public opinion which is much to be deprecated. After His Excellency had decided as to the allocation of the funds required for public works, he was still left with the greatest undertaking of all, and whatever his private opinions may be—and they are bound to coincide with the views of those who see in the railway scheme the opening up of a vista of illimitable prosperity—he must have felt that here lay one of the heaviest burdens that he would be called upon to carry. The old policy of keeping matters dark in all that pertained to the railway still continues, but a little light was shed on the subject when the Colonial Secretary asked the Council, at the meeting held yesterday afternoon, to appropriate the sum of four and a quarter million dollars to provide for the work which is projected for 1908. Had the members of the Council been kept in touch with the progress of the railway there would have been none of that lifting of eyebrows and expressions of wonderment which were witnessed yesterday. And there would have been none of those disagreeable revelations as to the reasons which had led to the necessity for this unexpectedly large outlay. What we still know of the railway could be comfortably contained in a cocked hat, and if the signs are read aright there is not much more information to be given. The original estimate of the total cost of the railway was put at £550,000; it will now be in the neighbourhood of a million pounds sterling. Instead of one tunnel having to be pierced the latest survey shows that several occur along on the route. The Government after purchasing land wholesale at the outset now find that much of that land is left on their hands, and negotiations have to be entered into for the acquisition of new rights-of-way. And, among other things, we learn that as usual our old friends the Crown Agents have a finger in the pie. He would have been a stranger indeed to the Far East who could not have made what in the circumstances would have proved a happy guess that the Crown Agents—even when concerned with the disposition of their quarters in new palaces in London—were tinkering and tampering with the original scheme. Heaven seems to be against them, for whatever they undertake seems to be followed by the malice of some evil sprite, of whom they cannot rid themselves. But as somebody else pays the piper perhaps the dreams of the Crown Agents are not greatly disturbed. However, the fact is clear that now we are embarked on the Kowloon-Canton railway we must get through with the job one way or another. The Government must have $4,250,000 and although the vote has been held over till certain questions have been answered to the satisfaction of the Council members the Government will get what they want. There is therefore nothing to be gained by haggling over the matter or raking up grievances which will do nobody any good. More, it casts a certain reflection on the administration of His Excellency the Governor and that is wholly unjustified. Even that rampant Irishman, the Colonial Secretary, who loves nothing better than a fight when he is the one alleged to be at fault, had perforce to sit as mute as the harp that hangs on Tara's halls. He nearly became sarcastic when he said: "In dealing with a tunnel you are really working in the dark." Compare that with the joyous spirit which animated Mr. May when he felt that his department was being enfiladed by the elected members in the early months of last year. No rapier thrust in those days and no still wine for others to quaff; nothing but gaily flashing steel and sparkling usquebragh. The railway requirements are great and will mean the starving of other schemes, but the fault lies not here and, consequently, it should not be pressed as an offence against the administration of the Colony. Perhaps, however, the exclamations of astonishment which greeted the list of funds required by the railway engineer for the work in 1908 will induce the Governor to be a little more explicit in the future than his predecessor was in the past regarding the progress made on the railway.

THE COST OF MARKET COMMODITIES.

Unless we are sadly mistaken, the possible withdrawal from the newspapers of what was supposed to be the official list of market prices will impose but little hardship or inconvenience on those who look after the daily domestic requirements of Hongkong households. It may be that a few skinflints and some amateur statisticians who found an interesting though extremely unprofitable occupation in comparing the printed rates with the cook's amended list of charges will find themselves deprived of the pleasure of proving that the average Chinese *chef* is an adept in the art of chicanery and prevarication, but it is long since the general community put any faith in the published list. It has never been precisely stated how the list was prepared, although we may presume that the authority responsible for its production made a number of inquiries at the various stalls, struck an average and issued the document with which we are all familiar. The Sanitary Board, under whose auspices the prices were collated, disclaimed all power to compel the stallholders to abide by the rates quoted, the inspector who signed the list seems to have performed that duty very much as a matter of form, and the stallholders, in sublime disregard of any list or no list, followed the dictates of their own conscience, which usually meant that they demanded a little more than they expected to receive and accepted a good deal more than the buyer had expected to pay. Now that the Board has decided that the post of market inspector shall be abolished, the duties of that officer being performed by the district inspector, and that no signature shall be attached to the current market price-list, whatever value that sheet ever possessed has absolutely disappeared. Perhaps it may be held that as the list never had any value and was invariably repudiated by those who had anything to do with it, no adequate reason has been submitted why its publication should be discontinued, and with that view we must confess ourselves in hearty agreement. There was ever a dignity about the alleged official list, a suggestion that people could live on next to nothing in Hongkong if only they disbursed their money with ordinary caution, so that in time it is just possible that the humorous aspect of the matter might have been merged in the consideration of its honoured age. But it is to be feared that the hand of the reformer is heavy in the land and even this relic of the past will be relegated to the limbo of the forgotten. As we have said, it has never been quite clear how the prices were arranged, whether a syndicate of dealers in the different sections arrived at a general average which suited their purpose or whether it was the result of private investigations, but this much is certain, the Chinese purchaser could always obtain his supplies at lower prices than those quoted while the European generally had to pay higher. If the dollar declined in value up went the cost of meat, poultry, fish, fruit and vegetables; if it advanced it was an understood thing that no variation in the price of silver could affect the price of local commodities. Should the inexperienced visitor persist in protesting against the continued increase in the cost of domestic necessaries, then the stallholder blandly drew attention to the indisputable fact that the stall rents had been rising annually, with the natural result that the successful candidates—that is to say, those who had offered the highest rents—had to advance their retail prices in order to make both ends meet. In the end the inquirer would find himself, backed by every law

The question of the stall rents is, of course, one of the utmost difficulty to settle satisfactorily. The Government could never bestow the stalls on favoured individuals without rendering itself open to the charge of favouritism. On the other hand, the disposal of the stalls by auction offers undoubted advantages to the man with the longest purse, or to other words, the capitalist, and also offers certain inducements to the formation of syndicates and combines. So long, however, as individual dealers are allowed to sell their goods outside the regular markets the danger resulting from the establishment of a quasi-monopolistic system is comparatively trifling. It has often been said that Europeans could not compete with Chinese dealers in comestibles, but apparently, so far as the meat market is concerned, Europeans are in a level footing with the natives, in Japan at least. We learn that in Yokohama the Butchers' Guild adopted a policy which had for its object the "squeezing" of the foreigner. Continual increases in the cost of meat were recorded, until the system savoured of nothing more or less than blood-sucking. Now, the *Japan Herald* is pleased to note that the members of this despotic ring have met their match at last, and the facts which have led up to the partial overthrow of their plans are of sufficient interest to warrant publication. The credit for this success is largely due to a foreigner whose duty it is to make large purchases of meat daily on behalf of a local institution. Somewhat incensed at the constant rise in the price of meat, and knowing full well that it was but another attempt to "squeeze" the foreign customers, the foreigner above referred to threatened to transfer his patronage to another dealer if the new schedule of prices were adhered to. Our contemporary proceeds to state that a threat to start an opposition store was merely met by the Guild butchers with the retort that the attempt had been tried before, and had resulted in a foreign firm losing money in the venture. The foreigner in question, however, resolved not to be browbeaten, and after canvassing the leading hotels, and securing their promise of support, succeeded in persuading a Japanese greengrocer to open a store, and to sell meat at the figure which prevailed before the recent advance made by the combine. The member of the Guild, who had previously assumed an adamantine attitude, seeing the danger of losing trade, at once began to make overtures to the foreigners with a view to regaining his patronage, but the effort was unsuccessful. In another column of the *Japan Herald* is the advertisement of the Japanese who has now opened business, and our contemporary commends him to the attention of the foreign community, who it is hoped, will accord him a full measure of support. "Business men have a perfect right to conduct their own business as they wish," adds the *Herald*, "but when that business amounts to a monopoly detrimental to the public interest, and is aimed at one section of the community, it is time a public protest should be raised, and steps taken to combat the evil." We doubt, however, whether such direct opposition would prove a success in Hongkong, where the Chinese breeders, stockowners and dealers work hand in hand and control the market. However desirable it might be to secure a reduction in the price of general commodities it is probable that such an end could not be attained without involving a general boycott by those who have established the trade and are in a position to direct the movements of the market. Boycotts are unpleasant things to deal with and once introduced are apt to take root as desirable methods of expressing opposition, so that it seems probable that the only thing European or other purchasers can afford themselves the privilege of doing is to grin and make the best of it.

LOCAL AND GENERAL.

THE Bank of England rate has further receded to-day to four per cent.

A GAS explosion has taken place in the Yubari colliery at Hokkaido. Seventy miners out of 104 perished; sixteen others were severely injured.

ON page 3 will be found the draft Bill, proposed by the Majority of the Subsidiary Coin Committee, in their recommendations to Government. The Bill is for the purpose of regulating the import and export of coin into and from the Colony.

MR. Murray promises a travel book of much interest. Its author, Mr. R. F. Johnson, formerly of the Hongkong Civil Service, who is British District Officer at Wei-hai-wei, made the journey from Peking to Mandalay, taking in the lesser known parts of Szechuan and Yunnan.

HALF crews have been selected at the Medway depôt for the relief of half of the crews serving in the armed shallow-draught steamers *Sandpiper, Teal, Woodcock,* and *Robin* on the China Station. The ratings was to embark in the *Royal Arthur*, cruiser, at Portsmouth on January 24 for passage to China.

MR. Walter R. Clouth, the Chinese Imperial Maritime Customs, who is now home on long leave, has been graciously granted by the German Emperor the "Order of the Crown" (Kronen Orden IV. Klasse.) Mr. Clouth has many friends in China who will heartily congratulate him upon this well-deserved honour.

THE partnership between Sir Marcus Samuel and Mr. Samuel Samuel, trading under the style of M. Samuel and Co., having expired by effluxion of time, Sir Marcus Samuel has decided to retire. The firm will be continued under the same style by Mr. Samuel Samuel, who has admitted Mr. Walter H. Samuel and Mr. Walter H. Levy to partnership.

THE death is announced of Professor Janssen, the famous Directeur of the Meudon Observatory. Professor Janssen, who was eighty-three years of age, was decorated with the Royal Society's medal in 1877. We may recall that in 1868 he was sent to Java by the Ministry of Public Instruction and the Academy of Sciences. The practical results of that expedition won him the Lalande prize from the Academy. In 1874 he carried out a very successful mission to Japan, and on his return was invited to join an English expedition to Siam.

AMONG seafaring men in Cardiff the steady increase in the number of Chinamen who obtain berths on vessels at that port is causing alarm. It is stated that the Chinamen accept half the wages of European seamen, and are less particular as regards food, requiring only a few cheap though wholesome articles of diet. "There are," says the Cardiff secretary of the Sailors' and Firemen's Union, "between 200 and 300 Chinamen always on shore, and available for engagement. If the rate of increase of the past year or so is kept up we shall have a new Chinese boarding-house established every month or two."

BY kind permission of Lieut.-Colonel W. Scott Moncrieff and Officers, the Band of the Third Battalion "The Duke of Cambridge's Own" (Middlesex Regiment) will play the following programme of music, during dinner, at the Hongkong Hotel, to-morrow, the 25th inst.:—

March ..... "Remember" ..... Blanchetou
Overture ..... "Egmont" ..... Beethoven
Valse ..... "Madame Sans Gene" ..... Vale-Lane
Chorus and Gavatina from Bellsario ..... Donizetti
(a.) Serenade ..... "Quand tu Chantes" ..... Gounod
(b.) Serenade ..... "Morgen Standchen" ..... Schubert
Suite ..... "Pantomime" ..... Lacome
(a.)—Les dre-et-Isabelle.
(b.)—Scarmouche-et-Columbine.
(c.)—Pizzicato.
(d.)—Ballabile.
Polka ..... "Skylark" ..... Kessler
Selection ..... "A Country Girl" ..... Monckton
Regimental Marches.
God Bless the Prince of Wales.
God Save the King.

LADY DUFF-GORDON, Mrs. Elinor Glyn, the novelist, and a party of eight from New York society, paid a visit to Chinatown last month, and an account of their experiences fills several columns of the New York newspapers. Lady Duff-Gordon has many complimentary remarks to make of the cicerone, "Chuck" Connor, a well-known slum character. Connor returned the compliment by expatiating to an interviewer on the fine qualities of his English charges. He declares that Lady Duff-Gordon is "all to de prunes," that Mrs. Glyn is like his dead wife—"her nobs can stand acid," which, being interpreted, means that she is a "true blue," and able to stand the severest tests. But when asked if he took the ladies everywhere in Chinatown, "Chuck" smiled and observed that he showed them "only the door knobs, but not the rusty latches."

MAJOR-GENERAL BROADWOOD.

GUEST OF GENERAL WOOD AT PASAY FIELD.

The *Cablenews-American*, of 16th inst., says:—Major General Broadwood commanding the British forces in South China arrived in Manila yesterday morning on the *Zafiro* and will remain in the city until Saturday morning making arrangement for the British troops that are scheduled to attend the Carnival. General Broadwood was met at the boat by Captain Dorey who escorted him to General Wood's home, where he will be entertained during his stay in the city. General Broadwood was accompanied by Captain Hart-Synnot of the British general staff. Neither of the officers were in uniform.

After a short consultation with General Wood both officers mounted horses and rode to Pasay with the division commander. General Broadwood was received with a major general's salute and was escorted from the town limits of Pasay to the camp ground by a troop of cavalry. After the party had been received by Major Sands, commanding the camp, a trip over the meet grounds was made. The visitors were pleased with everything they saw and were especially astonished at the ingenuity of the scouts in the construction of grass houses instead of tents. Several of the infantry companies were on the march when the party arrived and the English officers made a careful inspection of the troops they met and their equipment. In the afternoon the party again visited the camp and watched with interest the various events of the programme. They were especially interested in the field and mountain artillery exercises.

Gen'l Broadwood and Captain Hart-Synnot were entertained at luncheon by General Wood. The other guests included the members of the division staff. The visitors will consult with the members of the Carnival committee to-day regarding the representation of British troops.

SHIPPING AND MAILS.

MAILS DUE.

German (*Zieten*) 28th inst.
German (*Kleist*) 1st prox., a.m.

The H. A. L. s.s. *Ambria* left Manila on 23rd inst., at 6 p.m., and may be expected here on 27th inst., a.m.

The C. P. R. Co.'s s.s. *Empress of India* left Yokohama p.m. on 23rd inst., for Victoria and Vancouver.

The N. Y. K. s.s. *Mayori Maru*, Bombay Line, left Singapore for this port on 22nd inst., and is expected here on 29th inst.

The N. Y. K. s.s. *Sikoku Maru*, American Line, left Shanghai for this port on 23rd inst., and is expected here on 27th inst.

FORTHCOMING REVOLTS IN CHINA.

OLD MOORE AT HIS OLD TRICKS.

Old Moore has been at it again, predicting battle, murder and sudden death for all he is worth. When the old fun wants to make the blood curdle into really first class whey, he performs the operation with the ease and facility of a Chinese sorcerer. Some people may ask: Does he never make a mistake? but Old M. absolutely declines to answer frivolous queries, and as his clientele is made up of the very top-notch circles in society he has cultivated a solemn, high and mighty, scoff at your peril style which is calculated to give the common herd the trembles. But let us see what he says this year, as found in his *Messenger*, which he has kindly forwarded for our delectation:

"What will happen in 1908" is not a question when Old Moore submits it. Rather it is a sort of preparatory cough covering the aside with which he regales the initiated: "Watch me make them jump." So having prepared the way, he begins in the manner of the gramaphone after the preliminary wheeze: "A special forecast of the world's fate by Old Moore, the Prophet of Pilgrim Street." "Fate" not luck or fortune or anything cheerful but grim, ghastly fate; and he begins right merrily, "A critical year." Having made it perfectly clear that those who expect to hear anything funny, or have any claims on the government should vamoose, disappear and make tracks for the sunshine, the unregenerate old prophet remarks quite casually: "The year 1908 is likely to be a critical one in many respects." The ribald might fancy they could say that themselves, but those who asked. "How do you know?" could they follow it up with the remark that "1908 is Kaballistically under the influence of Mercury and is the 26th or last year of the cycle of the Planet?" Not they. And the genuineness of the whole thing is shown in this that Old Moore does not say the end of the world is coming, as he might easily have done, and as the gentle reader having properly frightened his hearers into fits might be inclined to do, but only speaks of the last year of the cycle which is a teet tally different things. It is pleasing to reflect that as the result of the wandering propensities of the heavenly bodies we are to be startled by the events which are going to occur "all over the civilised world." Does Hongkong come under that definition? for there are critics who "hae their doots."

In the beginning of January, our old friends Saturn and Jupiter had a slight tiff, a question about the fateful ring no doubt, and as the consequence Prez. Roosevelt, the Mikado—Old Moore still sticks to the ancient title, as who wouldn't when he can remember things the Emperor of Japan never dreamt of?—and the President of the French Republic are to have a bad time. "If this does not signify grave personal danger," says he, "then it will bring a danger of war," and serves them right too. Weren't Japan and America making faces at each other when Old Moore made his prediction, and didn't Teddy R. narrowly escape being injured by his own "big stick?"

"The death-rate will be very heavy. The position of Neptune points to Socialistic tendencies in the Commons"—Neptune, we take it, being a polite name for the Old Man of the Sea—"and to disputes and involved action therein." It is as easy as falling off a log for Old Moore to prophesy—he has the gift, or the trick if you like. Anybody could say: "In January a heavy cloud will hang over Hongkong. The Governor will distribute several prizes to budding geniuses who will pay more attention to the headmaster's instrument of torture than H.E.'s address. With luck the Government will issue its report on subsidiary coins but owing to the Kabbalistic signs nothing will happen for a time, and perhaps not then. Through the influence of Neptune, the dollar will fluctuate very seriously and Government myrmidons will rejoice thereat while the public counts its cash." And so on, *ad infinitum*. But there is not the true ring about those predictions. Listen to Old Moore instead:

"In the Eastern States, Mars and Saturn"—these two are always hanging about in company—"Mars and Saturn will be culminating at the eclipse and this is an augury of terrible disasters; either of an earthquake, violent hurricane or tidal wave off the coasts." Well, it is perfectly certain that Old Moore's prediction will come true for even if the three combined fail the newspapers of the great U.S. will do their best to help him along.

But what we in the Far East are anxious to hear about is not what's going to happen to the U.S. but to us. Old Moore is obliging as usual and vivaciously states: "At Tokyo the luminaries will be rising, pointing to great excitement among the people, turbulent scenes and much unrest. Neptune's setting shows treachery from foreign powers, the breach of a treaty and an involved state of affairs with other countries. It seems to us that if Neptune doesn't take care of himself he will be hurt. Then—"The Mikado" will be in danger and should guard his life and person. Serious accidents are threatened in the Empire." So much for Buckingham. "In China, in and about E. Long. 104 to 108, seismic troubles are threatened for Mars and Saturn are in the nadir in this locality. A revolt against authority may be expected." Now that is something like business. A revolt in China! Who could have told the old man and why didn't he mention that the missionaries will have to flee for their lives? In July China is to suffer from "outrages and rapine," but there is no mention of the West River. "Look out for June 15th!" Is the warning given by Old Moore and we leave it at that. But is it not high time that somebody took Neptune, Mars and Saturn in hand and gave them a taste of the stocks?

In conclusion let us give Old Moore's last about to-morrow. "An evil day for all things, keep very quiet."

Telegrams.

[*Reuter's.*]

Canada and Japan.

London, 22nd January.

Mr. Lemieux, in a statement to the House of Commons, Ottawa, described the mission to Japan as a complete success, and said that all danger of future trouble in regard to Oriental immigration had been eliminated.

He gave a tribute to Sir Claude Macdonald and Count Hayashi, the latter was a true friend to Canada.

Mr. Lemieux explained that Japan had not insisted on the complete enjoyment of treaty rights and privileges when they involved a disregard of special conditions in Canada. He added that Canada was bound to accept Count Hayashi's dignified assurance of good faith, and they could not ask a rising power, Great Britain's friend and ally, to brand herself an inferior race.

Later.

The Socialists in Germany.

The Reichstag and the Imperial Palace were isolated yesterday by dense cordons of police armed with revolvers, in anticipation of demonstrations in support of a Socialist interpellation demanding the extension of the Reichstag franchise to the Prussian Diet.

Prince Buelow refused to discuss the matter outside the Reichstag's domain, and warned the Socialists that disorderly demonstrations would be vigorously repressed.

CANTON DAY BY DAY.

NEW GERMAN CONSUL.

[*From Our Own Correspondent.*]

Canton, 22nd January.

The newly-appointed German Consul, Dr. W. Rossler, of this port assumed charge of the Consulate here on the 20th inst. The new Consul takes the place of Dr. von Borch.

CAPITAL OF KWANGSI.

A Peking telegram states that the Central Government has proposed to remove the capital of the province of Kwangsi from the city of Kweilin to the port of Wuchow, and has given instructions to the Governor of Kwangsi, H.E. Chang Ming-chi, to inquire into and report on the feasibility of the proposal.

The official seals of the various yamens of the city was closed to-day, when the transaction of public business will be temporarily suspended for the New Year holidays.

23rd January.

RAILWAY DIRECTORSHIP.

The Ministry of Communications and Posts at Peking has sent a telegraphic despatch to the Canton-Hankow Railway Company sanctioning the appointment of Mr. Lo Po-shun who was elected Vice-president of the Company the other day.

YUMCHOW PEACEFUL.

A Yumchow correspondent states that, soon after the arrival of Admiral and Commander-in-chief, Chun Ping-chik, peace and good order were soon restored as Chun has carried out the work of reorganisation in a most satisfactory manner. Many persons of the different villages in that prefecture, who took part in the recent rising, have now delivered their arms and ammunition and other weapons to the Commander-in-chief and have surrendered themselves to him. When such persons were arrested, they were handed over to Chun who tried and questioned them in a calm manner and induced them to lead a proper life, which has brought about a peaceful state of affairs in the country.

THREATENED BLACKMAIL.

The villagers of Chai Pin, in the vicinity of Fatshan, within the last week or so, have received three letters in succession from robbers, each demanding a sum of $2,000, and should the money not be forthcoming, they threatened to attack the village. The people of that village have reported to the officials these facts and, in consequence, two guard boats have now been sent there to keep watch.

WATERWORKS.

A shipment of some 1,000 piculs of cast iron pipes recently arrived here from Hongkong for the use of the Canton Waterworks Company.

NEW BANK.

The Ministry of Finance at Peking has forwarded a despatch to the Canton authorities, together with a code of regulations governing the establishment of the local branch of the Imperial Government Bank, urging that the bank should be established at an early date. The initial capital of the proposed institution will be taels 1,000,000.

JAPANESE CABINET CRISIS.

THE VOICE OF THE TURTLE.

Tokio, January 16.

The *Kokumin Shimbun* says that among the Elder Statesmen who urged or endorsed postponement of the enterprises affecting the Army and Navy to the extent of two-thirds of the whole economy contemplated by the budget, are Prince Yamagata, Marquis Katsura and Count Yamamoto.

No "military party" exists in Japan. Marquis Katsura, the prospective Premier, is a man of the most cautious character. He inherits the peace policy of Prince Ito and Prince Yamagata. The forthcoming Ministerial change only implies a transfer of power from one peace party to another peace party.—*N. C. D. News.*

THE new Chinese Minister to St James's, Li Ching Fang (Lord Li), received Major Henry Wright at the Legation on 21st ult., and like his three predecessors, Sir Chichen Lo Feng Luh, Chang Ta Jen, and Wang Ta Sieh, signed on Ambassador's page of Major Wright's collection of autographs. In each Lord Li wrote in Chinese.

"A SOLDIER OF THE LEGION."

THE LATE MR. GEO. MANINGTON.

To those who have read Mr. George Manington's interesting book "A Soldier of the Legion," published quite recently by Mr. Murray, the announcement of his death from malaria in Hongkong comes as a painful shock. His striking account of the strenuous adventurps of the soldiers of fortune who constituted his corps sees the light at a most opportune moment, when so many of them are enduring the hardships of war at this moment in Morocco. Although Mr. Manington was not with them, he was nevertheless enduring equal hardships and exposure in the service of the Legion at the other side of the world, and his lamentable death is due directly to those causes. The malaria which attacked him in the forest forts of Tonkin left such impress upon his constitution that periodically he was prostrated by sickness. Nevertheless his energies never slackened, and among many nationalities from Singapore to Seoul he had friends without number. By turns he was a *Times* correspondent, a merchant's assistant, a cattle trader with the Philippines during the early days of the American occupation, and an interpreter. He was even for a time a dentist, and drew teeth with as much success as was shown in any other of his many occupations. At length a little over three years ago he was ordered home by the doctors, for internal complications followed the recurring attacks of fever, and he was warned that it must be England or an early death. He came to London sick and worn, but still optimistic and cheerful. Within six months, mainly spent in Hampshire, he received an offer to join the editorial staff of a Hongkong paper [*The Hongkong Telegraph*]. His friends protested, but he felt his strength renewed, and cabled an acceptance, eager once more for experience amid the glamour of the East. There he entered into his work with heartsome gladness, and the magnetism and unselfishness which are indicated in his book drew to him troops of friends. But the strength he felt within him was transitory. Again and again his physical enemy seized him, and, in a state of utter debility, he had to take to the hospital, where despite all attention he finally succumbed. His friends mourn the loss of a brave spirit and a true-hearted, gentle companion.—*L. & C. Express.*

JAPANESE FLOUR MILLS.

PROPOSED EXTENSION.

Foreign flour imported from the United States and Australia into Yokohama and Kobe averaged above 6,500,000 bags per year for the last three years. Since the latter part of last year many flour-milling companies having been established both in the Kwanto and the districts in the neighbourhood of Osaka, the daily output is estimated at 10,00 bags. The principal companies are the Masuda Flour Mill and Nippon Flour Milling Company's branch factory. In the neighbourhood of Tokio there are the Nippon Flour Milling Company with a daily output of 2,500 bags, the To-a Company with a daily output of 3,000 bags, and also the old works of the Nippon Flour Milling Company, producing about 2,000 bags per day. Moreover, the lately-amalgamated Meiji Flour Milling Company will commence operations at the end of this month, the estimated daily output from those mills being 3,000 bags per day. There are also the Nisshin and Tatebayashi Flour Milling Companies, which were amalgamated last year, that concern producing as much as 1,300 bags per day. The branch works of the above company at Kanagawa have quite recently completed the installation of machinery having a capacity of 2,500 bags per day, operations being expected to be commenced at the beginning of March at the latest. Then there is the Utsunomiya Flour Mill, lately bought up by the Nippon Flour Milling Company, which is at present producing 400 bags per day. This company has ordered new machinery, which is expected to be in working order by next June. The imported American flour which has accumulated in and about Yokohama is estimated at about 400,000 bags at present, and there has been a tendency towards a lowering of prices since last month. As the Japanese companies are said to have an abundant stock of raw material in hand at comparatively low prices it is expected that there will be keen competition between the imported and the home-made flour in the near future, and it is also expected that the price of flour will fall considerably in the course of a couple of months or so.

VOLUNTEER CORPS ORDERS.

ALL UNITS.

Parade.—At headquarters at 5.30 p.m. on Monday, the 27th instant, for infantry Drill. Sergt. Downer, 3rd Middlesex Regt., will attend.

TAIKOO DETACHMENT.

Parade.—At Taikoo at 5.30 p.m. on Thursday, the 30th instant, for 15 pdr. B. L. gun drill. Sergt. Cook, R.A.G., will attend.

ENGINEER COMPANY.

Parade.—At West Fort, Kowloon, at 6 p.m. on Wednesday, the 29th instant, for technical instructions.

LEAVE.

Gunner H. M. Bass is granted leave of absence out of the Colony for 12 months with effect from the 15th instant.

RESIGNED.

Gunner S. J. Michael is permitted to resign on leaving the Colony with effect from the 17th instant.

ORDERLY OFFICER.

For week ending Saturday, the 1st February, 1908, Lieut. M. S. Northcote.

RIGHT HALF NO. 1 COMPANY.

It is notified for information that musketry will be carried out for the above half company at Kipp's Park Range on Sunday, the 26th inst., commencing at 1 p.m.

All members who have not fired their musketry course must do so on this date.

RAUB GOLD MINE.

The General Manager's report on the above Mine for December states that the Mine measurements and assay results of prospecting work show a total of 594 feet for the period (4 weeks) under review, made up of 25 feet sinking, 134 feet of driving, 329 feet crosscutting and 96 feet of surface prospecting, as against a total of 430 for the previous four weeks.

MINES.

B. Koman, 540 Level Main Crosscut East:—This has been extended from 80 feet to 107 feet. The lode was struck at 90 feet which proved to be 60 in. wide, rather mixed and low grade, subsequent driving shows an improvement. The crosscut is being continued.

440 feet Level Drive South:—This end has been driven 11 feet bringing the total to 353 feet. The lode 54 in. wide assays 5¾ dwt.

440 feet Level North Drive South on Footwall Portion.—To this has been added 10 feet making a total of 97 feet.

The lode 60 in. wide is worth 3 dwt. per ton.

340 feet Level South.—The mid-level above this drive has been taken 10 feet making a total of 16 feet.

The good bunch worked on last month has pinched out.

340 feet Level South Drive South from Winze below.—This was started early in the month at about 50 feet down the No. 1 Winze and taken 13 feet, Southward, its object is to prospect a bunch of stone below the 340 feet level.

340 feet Level North Drive on Hanging Wall Portion.—Here 10 feet has been driven making a total of 179 feet. The lode 60 in. gives a value of 6¾ dwt.

240 feet Level North Drive on Hanging Wall Branch.—This has been advanced 13 feet making a total of 121 feet. The lode 68 in. wide assays 4 dwt.

Cross cutting for stope filling.—172 feet.

Stopes.—The following have been in operation.

Above the 440 feet level; 1 stope, lode 90 in. wide worth 5 dwt.

Above the 340 feet level; 2 stopes, lode 94 in. wide worth 4¼ dwt.

Above the 240 feet level; 2 stopes, lode 87 in. wide worth 2 dwt.

STOPE MINE.

160 feet Level Drive South.—This has been advanced 29 feet bringing the total to 525 feet. The lode 78 in. wide assays 13 dwt.

160 feet Level North.—The drive has not been worked during the month.—The cross cut west has been taken 24 feet making a total of 31 feet without showing anything new.

60 feet Level South, Intermediate Winze.—This has been sunk 25 feet. It is intended to connect with the stope below and to leave a pillar of poor ground.

Cross cutting for stope filling.—116 feet.

Stopes.—Above the 160 feet level, 2 stopes, lode 95 in. wide and worth 13¾ dwt.

B MALACCA.

No. 2 Level from No. 2 Shaft Drive South from Winze.—This has been extended 19 feet, making a total of 65 feet. The lode 48 in. wide assays 10¼ dwt. The drive north from Winze has been taken 7 feet making the total 62 feet. The lode 48 in. wide assays 12 dwt. From a lode 54 in. wide and worth 8¼ dwt. 311 tons of ore have been won and sent to the mill.

No. 1 Level South from No. 1 Shaft.—This has been driven 16 feet, bringing the total to 150 feet. Odd bunches of quartz have been met carrying a little Gold. The waste has been used for stope filling.

Surface Prospecting.—Some 95 feet of driving and cross cutting on the surface has been done and some good bunches of ore uncovered.

General.—The Huntingdon Mill at Koman has been started, and is now in constant work. The 5th Cyanide leaching vat is being constructed. From the Wilfly Tables, 17 tons of Concentrates have been recovered, worth 3.14 ozs. per ton.

Milling Returns 4 weeks ending 28th December.

BUKIT KOMAN.

Stamps Working 40.

Period of Work 28 days less 1.3 days for Sunday repairs and clean up.

Ore Milled Bukit Koman 1562 tons.

Stope 1507 total 3069 tons.

Huntingdon Mill ran 18.88 days: lost time chiefly due to newness of machine. Crushing 105 tons. Koman Mine ore, 337 tons Surface Ore, and 118 tons old battery foundations. Total 600 tons.

Amalgam Recovered	2593.00	ozs producing
Retorted Gold	973.15	"
Smelted "	955.45	"
Average Yield per ton	5.19	dwt
Value of tailings	1.34	"

BUKIT MALACCA.

No I Mill ran 25 days, No II " 25 days } Crushing 311 tons mine ore and 1715 tons surface ore.

Total Tons.	2026	
Amalgam Recovered	471 ozs	producing
Retorted Gold	184 oz	"
Smelted "	178.5 oz	"
Average Yield per ton	1.76 dwt	
Total Tons Crushed	5695	
" Amalgam	3064	
" Smelted Gold	1130.05 oz	
Average Fineness	930.13	
" Yield per ton	3.97 dwt.	

W. H. MARTIN,
General Manager.

THE WEATHER.

The following report is from Mr. F. G. Figg, Director of the Hongkong Observatory:—

On the 24th at 11.55 a.—The barometer has fallen over China, particularly in the North.

A shallow depression appears to be moving Eastwards over the Lower Yangtze, and pressure is now highest over S. W. Japan.

Moderate E. winds may be expected in the Formosa Channel, and fresh monsoon over the China Sea.

Hongkong Rainfall for the 24 hours ending at 10 a.m. to-day, 0.45 inches.

FORECAST.

1.—Hongkong and neighbourhood, N. E. winds, moderate; dull, rainy.

2.—Formosa Channel, E. winds, moderate.

3.—South coast of China between Hongkong and Lamocks, same as No. 1.

4.—South coast of China between Hongkong and Haiphong, same as No. 1.

CRICKET AT WUCHOW.

WUCHOW v. "ROBIN'S".

Wuchow, 20th January, 1908.

A nine-aside cricket match was played here yesterday between teams representing H.M.S. *Robin* and Wuchow. The local men had first knock and made a bad start, losing two wickets in the first over. Messrs. Daniel and Komaroff then made a stand for the third wicket, the partnership yielding 81 runs before Daniel was caught for a well played and hard hit score of 41. With the exception of Ford (11) the others did badly and the innings terminated for 110, of which Komaroff scored 45 not out by careful play. The *Robins* opened up disastrously, losing 2 wickets for no runs. Dr. Clark-Hall (15) and Cannon (13) were the only two batsmen to reach double figures, the remainder forming a procession. Daniel and Ford, the local bowlers, were in good form, the former being unplayable. Mr. Kearns, for the *Robin*, bowled well and took 6 wickets for 49 runs. The following are the scores:—

WUCHOW.

S. Bell-Smith b Kearns	7
F. Hellman b Walcott	0
A. Daniel c Kearns b Cannon	41
C. Komaroff not out	45
N. Ford b Kearns	11
J. Adderley b Kearns	0
E. Watson b Kearns	0
G. Ades c and b Kearns	2
A. Schmidt b Kearns	0
Extras	4
Total	110

H.M.S. "ROBIN."

Lieut. Walcott st Komaroff b Daniel	0
Dr. Clark-Hall b Ford	15
C. Searle b Daniel	0
A. Kearns b Daniel	9
G. Cannon st Komaroff b Daniel	13
B. Bailey b Daniel	2
A. Parr b Daniel	0
B. Luidsey not out	0
A. Lord b Ford	3
Extras	2
Total	44

CRICKET.

CRAIGENGOWER v. CIVIL SERVICE.

This match will take place on Saturday at 2.15 p.m., on the former Club's ground. The following will represent Craigengower:—L. E. Lammert (capt.), R. Basa, A. O. Brawn, H. L. Manderson, G. A. Hancock, G. Evans, E. Irving, R. Pestonji, J. D. Kinnaird, L. A. Rose, M. E. Asger and J. D. Kinnaird.

LEAGUE TABLE.

The following is the table up to date:—

Club.	Matches. P.	W.	L.	D.	Pts.	Percentage.
Telegraphs	9	6	3	0	3	33.33
Craigengower	10	6	3	1	3	33.33
R. G. A.	10	6	3	1	3	33.33
Civil Service	9	3	3	3	0	
Kowloon	9	3	4	2	1	14.28
Hongkong Police	11	5	6	0	1	9.09
3rd Middlesex	8	3	5	0	2	25.00
Departmental Corps	8	3	5	0	2	25.00
Hongkong "A"	9	2	5	2	3	42.85

GARRISON FOOTBALL LEAGUE.

FIXTURES FOR THE NEXT WEEK.

Monday, 27th, No. 87th Co. v. No. 83 Co. R.G.A. Referee: Q.M.S. English, 3rd Mx.

Tuesday, 28th, "G" Co. 3rd Mx. v. No. 88 Co., R.G.A. Referee: Sgt. Atkins, A.S.C.

Wednesday, 29th, 40th Co. R.E., v. "F" Co. 3rd Mx. Referee: Sgt. Graham, A.O.C.

Thursday, 30th, "A" Co. 3rd Mx. v. "H" Co. 3rd Mx. Referee: R.Q.M.S. Thorp. R.G.A.

Friday, 31st, 25th Co. R.E. v. Departmental. Referee: Gr. Greenwood, R.G.A.

Kick-off 4 p.m. sharp.

RESULTS LAST WEEK.

No. 88 Co. R.G.A	0	"F" Co. 3rd Mx.	1
"A" Co. 3rd Mx.	2	Departmental	2
40th Co. R.E.	1	25th Co. R.E.	2
"H" Co. 3rd Mx.	0	No. 83 Co. R.G.A.	1

LEAGUE TABLE.

	P	W.	D.	L.	Goals. F:	A.	P.
"F" Co. 3rd Middlesex	12	10	1	1	39	10	21
"A" Co. 3rd Middlesex	13	8	2	3	31	13	18
"G" Co. 3rd Middlesex	11	8	1	2	23	7	17
No. 88 Co. R.G.A.	13	8	—	5	26	25	16
No. 83 Co. R.G.A.	12	3	—	9	14	38	10*
Departmental	10	4	1	5	13	22	9
No. 40 Co. R.E.	11	4	—	7	35	26	8
No. 87 Co. R.G.A.	10	4	—	6	23	21	8
"H" Co. 3rd Middlesex	12	3	2	7	11	27	8
No. 25 Co. R.E.	11	2	1	8	7	32	5

* 4 points for game forfeited by 25th Co R.E., 30-11-07.

† 2 points for game forfeited by No. 87 Co R.G.A., 14-12-07.

COMMERCIAL.

TO-DAY'S EXCHANGE.

Selling.	
London—Bank T.T.	1/10⅞
Do. demand	1/10 15/16
Do. 4 months' sight	1/11⅛
France—Bank T.T.	2.40
America—Bank T.T.	46⅜
Germany—Bank T.T.	1.95
India T.T.	143½
Do. demand	143½
Shanghai—Bank T.T.	74½
Singapore—21½ % prem	
Japan—Bank T.T.	93½
Java—Bank T.T.	114½
Buying.	
4 months' sight L/C	1/11 7/16
6 months' sight L/C	1/11⅜
30 days' sight San Francisco & New York	47½
4 months' sight do.	48⅛
30 days' sight Sydney and Melbourne	1.11⅛
4 months' sight France	2.46½
6 months' sight "	2.49
4 months' sight Germany	2.00½
Bar Silver	25 11/16
Bank of England rate	4 %
Sterling	10.—

To-day's Advertisements.

HONGKONG HOTEL.

—MENU.—

SATURDAY, January 25th, 1908.

DINNER.

HORS D'ŒUVRES.
Windsor Canapes.

SOUP.
Asparagus.

FISH.
Baked Fish and Tomato Sauce.

ENTREES.
Grilled Fillet of Beef and Mushrooms.
Fricassee of Rabbit with Rice.
Veal and Ham Patties.

CURRY.
Oyster.

JOINTS, &c.
Roast Leg of Mutton and Mint Sauce.
Roast Capon and Bread Sauce.
Boiled Corned Leg of Pork and Pease Pudding.
Cold Game Pie and Mixed Salad.

SWEETS.
Cornmeal Pudding.
Pineapple Ice Cream and Finger Cakes.
Jam Turnovers.
Cheese Straws.

DESSERT.
Coffee. Fruits. [158

TO LET.

GODOWN No. 3, NEW PRAYA, Kennedy Town.

Apply to—
THE HONGKONG LAND INVESTMENT & AGENCY CO., LD.
Hongkong, 24th January, 1908. [159

HARBOUR MASTER'S DEPARTMENT.

IT is hereby notified that information has been received from the Military Authorities that GUN PRACTICE will be carried out as under:—

On TUESDAY, the 28th January:—
From Stonecutters, in a Westerly direction, at ranges up to 10,000 yards, commencing at 10 A.M., and finishing at 1 P.M.

On THURSDAY, the 30th January:—
From Lyemun F.C. in an Easterly direction, at ranges up to 14,000 yards commencing at 2 P.M., and finishing at 6.30 P.M.

On MONDAY, the 3rd February:—
From Stonecutters in a Westerly direction, at ranges up to 6,000 yards commencing at 10.30 A.M., and finishing at 5 P.M.

On WEDNESDAY, the 5th February:—
From Pinewood in a Westerly direction, at ranges up to 10,000 yards commencing at 10 A.M., and finishing at 1 P.M.

On MONDAY, the 17th February:—
From Lyemun in a North-Easterly direction, at ranges up to 6,00 yards commencing at 7 P.M., and finishing at 11 P.M.

On TUESDAY, the 18th February:—
From Stonecutters in a North-Westerly direction, at ranges up to 6,000 yards commencing at 7 P.M., and finishing at 11 P.M.

On THURSDAY, the 20th February:—
From Lyemun F.C. in a North-Easterly direction, at ranges up to 10,000 yards commencing at 7 P.M and finishing at 11 P.M.

On FRIDAY, the 21st February:—
From Stonecutters in a North-Westerly direction, at ranges up to 6,000 yards commencing at 7 P.M., and finishing at 11 P.M.

On TUESDAY, the 25th February:—
From Lyemun F.C. in a North-Easterly direction at ranges up to 10,000 yards commencing at 7 P.M., and finishing at 11 P.M.

On TUESDAY, the 3rd March:—
From Stonecutters in a Westerly direction, at ranges up to 10,000 yards commencing at 7 P.M., and finishing at 11 P.M.

If the weather is unfavourable on any of the above dates, Practice will take place on the following day.

All ships, junks and other vessels are to keep clear of the ranges.

BASIL TAYLOR, Commander, R.N.,
Harbour Master, &c.
Hongkong, 24th January, 1908. [16

SANITARY BOARD OFFICE,
Hongkong.

TO THE OWNERS OF DOMESTIC BUILDINGS.

TAKE NOTICE that under No. 5 of the DOMESTIC CLEANLINESS and VENTILATION BYE-LAWS (as amended), every Domestic Building or part of such Building within the CENTRAL Division of the City of Victoria and the WESTERN Division of Kowloon, occupied by members of more than one family, except those within the European Reservation or in Kowloon South of Austin Road or those parts of a Domestic Building used as a Shop, Office or Godown, must be CLEANSED and LIMEWASHED THROUGHOUT by the owner during the months of December and January.

N.B.—The word "Throughout" used in this notice means that the Houses should be Limewashed in respect of all the Walls of each Room and Staircase, all Cubicle Partitions, Stair Casings and Stair-Linings, all Ceilings and the Undersides of Roofs both in Main Buildings, Offices and Servants' Quarters and inclusive of Verandahs.

The Backyard should have its containing Walls Limewashed up to the level of the first floor.

Carved, Painted or Polished Woodwork in good condition, however, need not be Limewashed, but must be Cleansed.

The Central Division of the City lies between Gilmen Street and Peel Street on the East and Tank Lane and Cleverly Street on the West.

Kau-lung is divided into the Eastern and Western Divisions by Robinson Road and a straight line drawn from the North and thereof through the Yaumati service Reservoir to the Northern boundary of Kau-lung.

The Government Limewashing Contractor is prepared to Cleanse and Limewash Floors at the rate of $1.10 per floor on application being made to the Secretary of the Sanitary Board.

G. A. WOODCOCK,
Secretary.
Dated this 11th day of January, 1908. [17

Intimation.

THE

ROBINSON PIANO

CO., LD.

INVITE INSPECTION

OF

NEW STOCK

OF

Steinway,

Bechstein,

Russell,

Krauss,

Romhildt,

Werner &c.

GRANDS & UPRIGHTS

BUILT UNDER OUR PERSONAL SUPERVISION

EMBODYING 30 YEARS' LOCAL EXPERIENCE.

Hongkong, 5th December, 1907. [5

To Let.

TO LET.

OFFICES at No. 14, Des Vœux Road Central (formerly occupied by Messrs. Shewan, Tomes & Co.)

HOUSE No. 11, Seymour Road.

Apply to—
THE COMPRADORE DEPARTMENT,
Jardine, Matheson & Co., Ltd.,
Connaught Road Central.
Hongkong, 24th January, 1908. [152

TO LET.

NOS. 4, 6, & 8, LEIGHTON HILL ROAD.

Apply to—
HONGKONG AND KOWLOON LAND AND LOAN CO., LD.,
No. 8, Queen's Road West.
Hongkong, 14th January, 1908. [126

TO LET.

A HOUSE in KNUTSFORD TERRACE, KOWLOON.

Apply to—
THE HONGKONG LAND INVESTMENT & AGENCY CO., LD.
Hongkong, 1st December, 1907. [67

TO LET.

NO. 5, MORRISON HILL.

ONE FOUR-ROOMED HOUSE, at PRAYA EAST, near East Point.

Apply to—
JARDINE, MATHESON & Co., LD.
Hongkong, 19th October, 1907. [60

TO LET.

4-ROOMED HOUSES in GAP ROAD near the Race Course within easy access to the Lower Level Tramway. Rent very moderate.

FLATS for Europeans in WILD DELL BUILDINGS, No. 147, Wanchai Road.

Apply to—
PERCY SMITH & SETH.
Hongkong, 16th December, 1907. [72

TO LET.

OFFICES on TOP FLOOR, No. 2, CONNAUGHT ROAD, facing the Cricket Ground.

'HATHERLEIGH,' Conduit Road.

A HOUSE in CLIFTON GARDENS, Conduit Road.

OFFICES in YORK BUILDING.

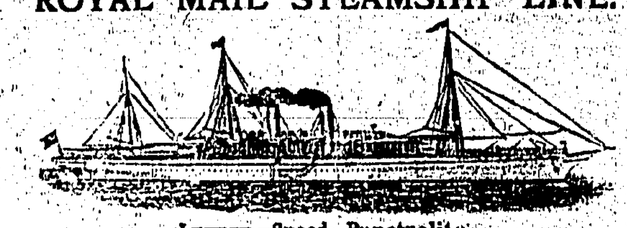
GODOWNS in PRAYA EAST, BLUE BUILDINGS, and No. 16B DES VŒUX ROAD next to the Hongkong Hotel.

FLATS in MORETON TERRACE.

A. I. 7 to—
THE HONGKONG LAND INVESTMENT & AGENCY CO., LD.
Hongkong, 1st December, 1907. [

Shipping—Steamers.

CANADIAN PACIFIC RAILWAY COY.'S ROYAL MAIL STEAMSHIP LINE.



Luxury—Speed—Punctuality.

The only Line that Maintains a Regular Schedule Service of under Eleven Days across the Pacific is the "Empress Line." Saving 5 to 10 Days' Ocean Travel.

11 Days YOKOHAMA TO VANCOUVER. 18 Days HONGKONG TO VANCOUVER.

PROPOSED SAILINGS. *(Subject to Alteration).*

R.M.S.	Tons	Leave Hongkong	Arrive Vancouver
"MONTEAGLE"	6,163	WEDNESDAY, Jan. 29th	Feb. 22nd
"EMPRESS OF JAPAN"	6,000	THURSDAY, Feb. 13th	Mar. 7nd
"EMPRESS OF CHINA"	6,000	THURSDAY, Mar. 12th	Mar. 31th
"EMPRESS OF INDIA"	6,000	THURSDAY, April 9th	April 27th
"MONTEAGLE"	6,163	WEDNESDAY, April 22nd	May 16th
"EMPRESS OF JAPAN"	6,000	THURSDAY, May 7th	May 25th

"EMPRESS" steamers will depart from Hongkong at 4 P.M.
Intermediate steamers at 12 Noon.

THE Quickest route to CANADA, UNITED STATES and EUROPE, calling at SHANGHAI, NAGASAKI, (through the INLAND SEA OF JAPAN), KOBE, YOKOHAMA, and VICTORIA, B.C., and at QUEBEC, with the Company's New Palatial "EMPRESS" Steamships, 14,500 tons register. The through transit to LIVERPOOL being 22 days, from YOKOHAMA, and 29½ days from HONGKONG.
Hongkong to London, 1st Class. .....*via* St. Lawrence River Lines or New York £71.10.
Hongkong to London, Intermediate on
Steamers, and 1st Class on Railways...*via* St. Lawrence £40. *Via* New York £42.
First-class rates include cost of Meals and Berth in Sleeping Car while crossing the American Continent.
R.M.S. "MONTEAGLE" carries "Intermediate" Passengers only, at Intermediate rates, affording superior accommodation for that class.
Passengers Booked through to all points and AROUND THE WORLD.
SPECIAL RATES (First class only) granted to Missionaries, Members of the Naval, Military, Diplomatic and Civil Services, and to European Officials in the Service of China and Japan Governments.
For further information, Maps, Routes, Hand Books, Rates of Freight and Passage, apply to D. W. CRADDOCK, General Traffic Agent for China.
Hongkong, 16th January, 1908. *Corner Pedder Street and Praya.* [15

INDO-CHINA STEAM NAVIGATION CO., LD.

(PROJECTED SAILINGS FROM HONGKONG.—SUBJECT TO ALTERATION).

For	Steamship	On
SHANGHAI	*CHOYSANG* †	...SATURDAY, 25th Jan., Noon.
SINGAPORE & SOURABAYA	*ONSANG*	.....SATURDAY, 25th Jan., 3 P.M.
TSINGTAU and CHEFOO	*CHEONGSHING**	.SATURDAY, 25th Jan., 4 P.M.
S'GAPORE, PENANG & CALCUTTA	*POOKSANG**	.....TUESDAY, 28th Jan., 3 P.M.
S'GAPORE, PENANG & CALCUTTA	*KUMSANG**	.....FRIDAY, 31st Jan., 3 P.M.
MANILA	*LOONGSANG**	...FRIDAY, 31st Jan., 4 P.M.

FOR THE MANILA CARNIVAL.

A Special reduced fare of $50 for Return Passages will be issued for our Sailings to Manila of the 24th and 31st instant, available for 30 days from date of issue. Passengers taking out these tickets are exempt from the Head Tax.

* These Steamers have superior accommodation for First-class Passengers, and are fitted throughout with Electric Light.

† Taking Cargo on through Bills of Lading to Yangtsze Ports, Chefoo and Tientsin via Ching-Wan-Tau.

For Freight or Passage, apply to

JARDINE, MATHESON & CO., LD.,
General Managers.

Hongkong, 24th January, 1908. [10

CHINA NAVIGATION CO., LIMITED.

For	Steamer	To Sail.
SHANGHAI	"YINGCHOW"	25th Jan., 4 P.M.
HOIHOW & HAIPHONG	"HUPEH"	26th ,, daylight.
MANILA	"TEAN"*	28th ,, 4 P.M.
SHANGHAI	"LUCHOW"	28th ,, ,,
MANILA, ZAMBOANGA & COLONIES	"CHINGTU"	31st ,, ,,
SHANGHAI	"SHAOHSING"	1st Feb., ,,
MANILA	"TAMING"*	4th ,, ,,
SHANGHAI	"YOCHOW"	6th ,, ,,
CEBU & ILOILO	"SUNGKIANG"	8th ,, ,,
SHANGHAI	"KIUKIANG"	11th ,, ,,
CEBU & ILOILO	"KAIFONG"	15th ,, ,,

* The Attention of Passengers is directed to the Superior Accommodation offered by these steamers, which are fitted throughout with Electric Light. Unrivalled table. A duly qualified Surgeon is carried.

† Taking Cargo on through Bills of Lading to all Yangtsze and Northern China Ports

For Freight or Passage, apply to

BUTTERFIELD & SWIRE,
AGENTS.

Hongkong, 24th January, 1908. [13

HONGKONG—MANILA.

Highest Class, newest, fastest and most luxurious Steamers between Hongkong and Manila.—Saloon amidships—Electric Light—Perfect Cuisine—Surgeon and Stewardess carried.—All the most up-to-date arrangements for comfort of Passengers.

CHINA AND MANILA STEAMSHIP COMPANY, LIMITED.

Steamship.	Tons.	Captain.	For	Sailing Dates.
ZAFIRO	2540	Fraser	MANILA	SATURDAY, 25th Jan., 1908.
RUBI	2540	Almond	,,	SATURDAY, 1st Feb., 1908

For Freight or Passage, apply to

SHEWAN TOMES & CO.,
GENERAL MANAGERS.

Hongkong, 20th January, 1908 [11

CHINA & MANILA STEAMSHIP CO., LIMITED.

MANILA CARNIVAL.

A CARNIVAL will be held in MANILA under Government auspices commencing on the 27th FEBRUARY, 1908. As an inducement to Hongkong residents to patronise this important event, besides enjoying a holiday of reasonable length, we have decided to despatch our steamer "ZAFIRO" for a special Carnival trip, leaving Hongkong at 4 P.M. on the afternoon of SATURDAY, the 22nd FEBRUARY. The "ZAFIRO" will reach Manila on Tuesday morning and in order that the full round of festivities may be enjoyed we shall not despatch the steamer from Manila until 2 A.M. on the morning of Tuesday, the 3rd March. She will reach Hongkong again at daylight on Thursday, the 5th March.

We have arranged a special fare for this round trip of $50 and Passengers should they so desire, may make arrangements to remain on board during steamer's stay in Manila.

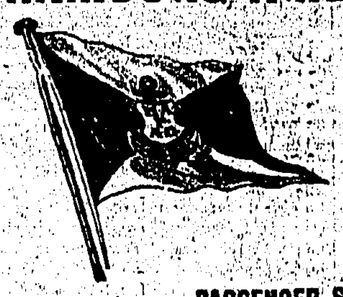
For further particulars, apply to the Undersigned.

SHEWAN, TOMES & CO.
General Managers.

Hongkong, 22nd January, 1908. [12

Shipping—Steamers.

HAMBURG-AMERIKA LINIE.



167 Ocean Steamers

with

916,000

Br. Reg. Tons.

PASSENGER SERVICE.

RHENANIA,—HARSBURG,—HOHENSTAUFEN,—SILESIA,—SCANDIA.

HIGHEST COMFORT, ONLY LOWER BERTHS.

Laundry on board, Doctor, Stewardesses carried.

Ports of call: **NAPLES, PLYMOUTH, HAVRE, HAMBURG.**

NEXT SAILINGS FROM HONGKONG.

Outward.	Homeward.
	HABSBURG .....29th Jan., 1908
HOHENSTAUFEN ... 22nd Feb., 1908	RHENANIA .....26th Feb., 1908
	HOHENSTAUFEN ...25th March, 1908

Hongkong, 17th January, 1908 [9

HONGKONG-NEW YORK.

AMERICAN ASIATIC STEAMSHIP CO.

FOR NEW YORK via PORTS and SUEZ CANAL.

(With Liberty to Call at the Malabar Coast).

Steamship	To sail

For Freight and further information, apply to

SHEWAN, TOMES & CO.,
General Agents.

23rd January, 1908. [12

NORTHERN PACIFIC LINE.

BOSTON STEAMSHIP COMPANY.

Connecting at Tacoma with NORTHERN PACIFIC RAILWAY COMPANY.

PROPOSED SAILINGS FROM HONGKONG FOR VICTORIA, B.C., AND TACOMA, VIA MOJI, KOBE AND YOKOHAMA.

Steamer	Tons.	Captain.	Sailing.
			1908.
Kumeric	6,232	Cowley	8th Feb.
Shawmut	9,606	E. V. Roberts	21st Feb.
*Tremont**	9,606	T. W. Garlick	17th Mar.
Suveric †	6,232	Shotton	9th Apr.

CHEAP FARES, EXCELLENT ACCOMMODATION, ATTENDANCE AND CUISINE, ELECTRIC LIGHT, DOCTOR AND STEWARDESS.

* The twin-screw s.s. *Shawmut* and *Tremont* are fitted with very superior accommodation for first and second class passengers. The large size of these vessels ensures steadiness at sea. Electric fan in each room. Barber's shop and steam-laundry. Cargo carried in cold storage.

† Cargo only.

PARCEL EXPRESS TO THE UNITED STATES AND CANADA.

For further Information apply to
DODWELL & CO., LIMITED,
General Agents
Queen's Buildings.
Hongkong, 17th January, 1908 [19-20

REGULAR STEAMSHIP SERVICE TO NEW YORK,

VIA PORTS AND SUEZ CANAL.
(With Liberty to Call at Malabar Coast).

PROPOSED SAILINGS FROM HONGKONG.

FOR BOSTON AND NEW YORK.
S.S. "SHIMOSA".....12th February, 1908.
For Freight and further Information, apply to

DODWELL & Co., LIMITED.
Agents
Hongkong, 21st January 1908 [89

TOYO KISEN KAISHA.

SOUTH AMERICAN LINE.

REGULAR STEAMSHIP SERVICE BETWEEN HONGKONG, CALLAO AND IQUIQUE via JAPAN PORTS (KARATSU, KOBE and YOKOHAMA).

With liberty to call at HONOLULU and SALINA CRUZ.

Steamers	Tons	To sail
KASATO MARU	6,100	Sometime in March, 1908.

Taking Freight and Passengers to other Eastern and Western Coast ports of South America in connection with Steamers of the Pacific S. N. Co.

For further Information as to Freight and Passage, apply to

K. MATSUDA,
Manager.
York Building.
Hongkong, 26th December, 1907. [16

EASTERN AND AUSTRALIAN STEAMSHIP COMPANY, LIMITED.

FOR SYDNEY AND MELBOURNE, (Calling at Timor, Port Darwin, and Queensland Ports, and taking through Cargo to Adelaide, New Zealand, Tasmania, &c.)

THE Steamship

"EMPIRE,"

Captain Helms, will be despatched as above, TO-MORROW, the 25th inst., at Noon.

This well-known Steamer is specially fitted for Passengers, and has a Refrigerating Chamber which ensures the supply of Fresh Provisions, Ice, &c., throughout the voyage.

The Steamer is installed throughout with the Electric Light.

A Stewardess and a duly qualified Surgeon are carried.

N.B.—To assure the additional comfort of passengers the steamers of the Company have electric fans fitted in staterooms.

For Freight or Passage, apply to
GIBB, LIVINGSTON & Co.,
Agents.
Hongkong, 7th January, 1908. [88

DOUGLAS STEAMSHIP COMPANY, LIMITED.

FOR SWATOW, AMOY AND FOOCHOW.

THE Company's Steamship

"HAITAN,"

Captain Roach, will be despatched for the above Ports, on SUNDAY, the 26th inst., at 10 o'clock A.M.

For Freight or Passage, apply to
DOUGLAS LAPRAIK & Co.,
General Managers.
Hongkong, 22nd January, 1908. [154

"SHIRE" LINE OF STEAMERS.

FOR LONDON, ANTWERP AND HAMBURG.

THE Steamship

"FLINTSHIRE"

will be despatched for the above Ports, on the 20th February, 1908.

For Freight, etc., apply to
SHEWAN, TOMES & Co.,
Agents.
Hongkong, 22nd January, 1908. [97

STEAM TO CANTON.

THE New Twin Screw Steel Steamers

"KWONG TUNG" ...Capt. H. W. WALKER.
"KWONG SAI" .....Capt. E. S. CROWE.

Leave Hongkong for Canton at 9 every evening, (Saturday excepted).

Leave Canton for Hongkong at 5.30 every evening, (Sunday excepted).

These Fine New Steamers have unexcelled Accommodation for First Class Passengers and are lit throughout by Electricity. Electric Fans in First Class Cabins.

Passage Fare—Single Journey.....$4.
Meals .....$1.25 each.

The Company's Wharf is situated in front of the New Western Market, opposite the old Harbour Office.

YUEN ON S.S. CO., LD.,
and
SHIU ON S.S. CO., LD.,
No. 4, Queen's Road West.
Hongkong, 3rd July, 1907. [60

Shipping—Steamer.

DOUGLAS STEAMSHIP COMPANY, LIMITED.

FOR SWATOW.

THE Company's Steamship

"HAIMUN."

Captain Robson, will be despatched for the above Port, on MONDAY, the 27th instant, at 2 o'clock P.M.

For Freight or Passage, apply to
DOUGLAS LAPRAIK & Co.,
General Managers.
Hongkong, 23rd January, 1908. [156

Intimations.

WHERE ARE YOU GOING?

WHY, TO CHAZALON & CO.,
6, QUEEN'S ROAD CENTRAL,
Where I am sure to find the best
FRENCH BONBONS,
LIQUEURS,
BURGUNDY,
BORDEAUX,
CHAMPAGNE
and
CLARET.

Hongkong, 30th January, 1908. [53

GREEN ISLAND CEMENT COMPANY, LIMITED.

PORTLAND CEMENT.

In Casks of 375 lbs. net $5.00 per Cask ex Factory
In Bags of 250 lbs. net $3.00 per Bag ex Factory.

SHEWAN, TOMES & Co.,
General Managers.
Hongkong, 3rd October, 1907. [52

F. BLACKHEAD & CO.,
SHIP-CHANDLERS, SAILMAKERS, COAL AND PROVISION MERCHANTS, NAVAL CONTRACTORS AND GENERAL COMMISSON AGENTS,
GROUND FLOOR,
ST. GEORGE'S BUILDING,
HONGKONG,
SOAP AND SODA MANUFACTURERS.

SOLE AGENTS FOR
HARTMANN'S RAHTJEN'S GENUINE COMPOSITION RED HAND BRAND, HARTMANN'S GREY PAINT, DAIMLER'S PATENT MOTOR LAUNCHES,
&c., &c., &c.

Sole Agents for
FERGUSON'S SPECIAL CREAM and P. & O. SPECIAL LIQUER SCOTCH WHISKY, &c.
EVERY KIND OF
SHIP'S STORES AND REQUISITES ALWAYS IN STOCK
AT
REASONABLE PRICES.

Hongkong, 7th March, 1907. [46

SWATOW DRAWN WORK COMPANY,
38, WELLINGTON STREET.

Dealers in all kind of
HAND-MADE DRAWN CHINESE LINEN, GRASS CLOTH, &c.,
all of the best quality;
ALSO
SWATOW BEST PEWTER-WARE,
CANTON EMBROIDERY and CHINESE LACES,
all from the best French patterns.
HONGKONG AND SWATOW.

Hongkong, 19th October, 1907. [51

LEE YEE
HAIR DRESSING SALOON.

HAS ALWAYS ON HAND
CIGARS, CIGARETTES AND TOILET REQUISITES
FOR SALE.
12, D'AGUILAR STREET,
HONGKONG.

Hongkong, 3rd September, 1907 [56

AN APPEAL.

THE SUPERIORESS of the ITALIAN CONVENT, CAINE ROAD, begs most respectfully to APPEAL to the Residents of Hongkong and the Coast Ports, for their kind patronage and support, and desires to state that she will be pleased to receive orders for all kinds of NEEDLE WORK.

Gentlemen's Shirts made to order, and Cuffs and Collars renewed on old ones.

Ladies and Children's Under-clothing, Children's Dresses, and all kinds of Embroidery, Materials can be supplied, if required.

The Superioress will also be most grateful for any PAPER, or old ENVELOPES to be made into Books for the Children of the Poor Schools, who are taught by the Sisters.

Hongkong, 22nd April, 1907. [60

ENGLISH NOTORIETIES IN NEW YORK.

DR. AKED CASTIGATES HIS CONGREGATION.

New York, Dec. 23.

A couple of well-advertised English people have just added a good deal to the gaiety of New York during these dull holiday times. One is Dr. Aked, and the other is Mrs. Elinor Glyn. Both have been devoting their energies to the gentle art of lecturing their American cousins.

The pastor of the Fifth-avenue Baptist Church yesterday threatened to resign if his congregation, which included Mr. John D. Rockefeller, sen., did not contribute 7,000 dollars to liquidate the church debt before the close of the service.

"This debt," said Dr. Aked, "is an inheritance of the past, but you must not expect me to contemplate the permanent ministry of this church if this yearly deficit of the current account is permitted

"A CROWD OF STINGY SOULS."

"I am grateful to the large givers of this congregation, but I shall not be the least shy at receiving larger sums from the same sources. Many persons decline to contribute on the ground that it is easy for the wealthy members of the church to pay all that is necessary. This spirit has rotted up a crowd of stingy souls and has made me tired of hearing this place of worship called 'Mr. Brown's,' 'Mr. Smith's,' or 'Mr. Robinson's church.'"

The reference was obvious. Everybody started at John D.'s pew, but the whole family became suddenly absorbed, first in their respective prayer-books, and then in anything that was within reach.

Owing presumably to the money stringency there seemed to be a dearth of dollar bills in the ensuing offertory, but there were promissory notes galore, nearly ten thousand dollars being subscribed.

FELINE AMENITIES.

The author of "Three Weeks" appears to have command of a far more scintillating vocabulary than Dr. Aked. She says that she was snubbed by the New York Pilgrim Mothers who invited her as a guest to their annual banquet at the Waldorf on Saturday, and declined to allow her to speak. Some ladies read "Three Weeks." One lady asked the authoress point blank why she wrote it. "To please myself," replied Mrs. Glyn. "Well," returned the other, "if that's the sort of stuff Englishwomen write, I am proud that I am an American."

Mrs. Glyn retaliated to-day by describing the Pilgrim Mothers as "a lot of flat-chested, slab-hipped, pancake-footed frumps. Never in all my life," she says, "have I seen such an aggregation of tabby cats going for their fodder, tooth and claw, and then licking their stubby finger-tips. I wondered where such preposterous people could have come from."

EAST-END CHINAMEN.

LITTLE KNOWN COLONY IN THE DOCKS DISTRICT.

The Chinese colony at Limehouse, though it provides picturesque materials for the magazines, who illustrate the "opium dens" there from time to time (largely from the imaginational), does not often get into the police news.

"They're a quiet lot," said a police official to the "Morning Leader" representative on Dec. 23, "and we seldom have any occasion to interfere with them. About the only time when we realise there is anything extraordinary about Limehouse Causeway at all is when curious visitors come down from the other end of London and want to know how they can be shown over the colony. Or when we go through there of a night; then, of course, you smell the the opium quite strong."

In the neighbourhood of the West India Docks there are now about 16 boarding-houses to accommodate the Celestials who leave their ships at London and are waiting for an engagement. Most of the houses are found in Limehouse Causeway and Penny-fields. They are run by Chinamen. Opium smoking goes on in all of them, as a matter of course, just as tobacco is smoked in the neighbouring public houses.

NOT FREQUENTED BY EUROPEANS.

"But," assured one to whom this Chinese colony is probably better known than to any other Englishman, one who was long [illegible] in China, and speaks several Chinese dialects, "I know of one of those houses—and I have had the matter under inquiry—which is frequented by Europeans. I know it is often asserted that European opium smokers are catered for here, but I have never discovered the place."

The shops in the Causeway are as ordinary as could be imagined. The windows contain nothing but bars of yellow soap, cheap cigarettes, and some tinned provisions, like dried lichees, or "water chestnuts"; other goods will be mysteries labelled with Chinese characters.

All of them are licensed boarding-houses. As many as 5,000 Chinese deck hands and firemen visit London yearly in British and foreign ships. The British ships are under contract to return their crews to the port of engagement. Some of these occasionally desert, and go into hiding in the colony. But the Chinese crews of the foreign ships often are discharged in London—hence the "opium dens."

OPIUM-SMOKING AND GAMBLING.

As much as £10,000 yearly, it has been estimated, is taken by the Chinese permanent residents of the colony as the result of a pleasant combination of boarding-house and opium smoking and "fan-tan." Some of the Chinese sailors have been known to lose as much as £100 in a week at the game of fan-tan.

But the whole colony is curiously apart from its environment. The people in the neighbourhood know nothing about the Chinese who live sometimes next door to them, and the only East-ender who has the confidence of the Celestials there is the Rev. G. Piercy, of the Chinese Mission, in the West India Docks Road; he (I happened, by the way, to meet the young man) has a great respect for the character of the Chinese people because he knows them so well.

Shipping.

Arrivals.

Murex, Br. s.s., 2,329, A. Deacon, 22nd Jan.,—Pulo Sambos and Singapore 16th Jan., Kerosine Oil.—A., K. & Co.

Taishan, Br. s.s., 1,411, J. S. Laing, 23rd Jan.,—Saigon 18th Jan., Gen.—B. & Co.

Tean, Br. s.s., 1,346, L. Outerbridge, 24th Jan.,—Manila 21st Jan., Oil and Gen.—B. & S.

Cheong Shing, Br. s.s., 1,256, F. Wheeler, 24th Jan.,—Canton 23rd Jan., Gen.—J., M. & Co.

Wingsang, Br. s.s., 1,517, H. C. N. Walker, 24th Jan.,—Haiphong 21st Jan., Cement.—J., M. & Co.

Choysang, Br. s.s., 1,424, Sandbach, 24th Jan.,—Shanghai 19th Jan., and Swatow 23rd, Gen., Oil and Sheep.—J., M. & Co.

Szechuen, Br. s.s., 1,142, Sidford, 24th Jan.,—Canton 23rd Jan., Gen.—J., M. & Co.

Clearances at the Harbour Office.

Uvi, for Saigon.
Maria, for Saigon.
Samsen, for Swatow.
America Maru, for Shanghai.
Choysang, for Canton.
Mandasan Maru, for Kuchinotzu.
Szechuen, for Amoy.
Yetorofu Maru, for Singapore.
Wingsang, for Shanghai.
Ovid, for Bangkok.
Wingsang, for Manila.
Zafiro, for Manila.

Departures.

Jan. 24.

America Maru, for San Francisco.
Nikko Maru, for Australian Ports.
Peninsular, for Shanghai.
Mandasan Maru, for Kuchinotzu.
Kumamoto Maru, for Anping.
Murex, for Shanghai.
Kinkiang, for Shanghai.
Yuensang, for Manila.
Chiyuen, for Shanghai.

Passengers arrived.

Per *Choysang*, from Shanghai, &c.—Messrs. A. Vandalet, D. Sutherland, 8 Europeans, and 67 Chinese in steerage.

Shipping Reports.

Str. *Wingsang*, from Haiphong:—Thick, misty, rain and strong N.E. winds.

Str. *Choysang* from Shanghai, &c:—Light N.E. and N'ly breeze, slight sea, overcast, rainy weather.

Str. *Tatshan*, from Saigon:—19th, 20th and 21st light N.E. winds and fine weather; 22nd and 23rd strong N.E. winds, high sea, frequent rain squalls.

VESSELS IN PORT

STEAMERS.

Amara, Br. s.s., 1,655, C. J. Mattock, 16th Jan.,—Shimonoseki 11th Jan., Coal.—J., M. & Co.

Amigo, Ger. s.s., 822, N. J. Baltzer, 18th Jan.,—Haiphong and Hoihow 17th Jan., Gen.—J. & Co.

Anghin, Ger. s.s., 1,001, Chr. Pümpel, 19th Jan.,—Bangkok 12th Jan., Rice.—B. & S.

Arcadia, Br. s.s., 3,514, A. T. Valentini, 23rd Jan.,—Shanghai 21st Jan., Mails and Gen.—P. & O. S. N. Co.

Childar, Nor. s.s., 1,102, H. Nielsjen, 20th Jan.,—Bangkok 11th Jan., and Swatow 19th, Gen.—N. Y. K.

Dakotah, Br. s.s., 2,500, Ross, 23rd Jan.,—Canton 23rd Jan., Ballast.—S. O. Co.

Derwent, Br. s.s., 1,556, J. Jenkins, 21st Jan.,—Saigon 7th Jan., Rice, &c.—Chinese.

Empire, Br. s.s., 2,843, P. T. Helms, 21st Jan.,—Kobe 15th Jan., Gen.—G., L. & Co.

Empress of Japan, Br. s.s., 3,039, Henry Pybus, R.N.R., 13th Jan.,—Vancouver 2 th Dec., and Shanghai 11th Jan., Mails and Gen.—C. P. R. Co.

Germania, Ger. s.s., 1,713, H. Lorenzen, 9th Jan.,—Haiphong 7th Jan., Rice.—J. & Co.

Haitan, Br. s.s., 1,183, J. S. Roach, 15th Jan.,—Foochow 12th Jan., Amoy 13th, and Swatow 14th. Gen.—D., L. & Co.

Hercules, Nor. s.s., 3,439, Bjerck, 23rd Dec.,—Tacoma and Mororan 11th Dec., Wheat.—Order.

Hilary, Ger. s.s., 1,130 H. Uecker, 22nd Jan.,—Macassar 13th Jan., Gen.—J. C. J. L.

Hulchow, Br. s.s., 1,217, E. Forsyth, 11th Jan.,—Haiphong 9th Jan., Rice.—B. & S.

Jeseric, Br. s.s., 3,113, G. H. Thomson, 22nd Jan.,—Yokohama 5th Jan., Gen.—A., K. & Co.

Joshin Maru, Jap. s.s., 702, H. S. Smith, 22nd Jan.,—Swatow 21st Jan., Gen.—O. S. K.

Khalif, Br. s.s., 3,807, C. A. Watts, 26th Dec.,—New York, U.S.A., 21st Oct., Case Oil.—Order.

Kumsang, Br. s.s., 2,078, E. J. Buller, 22nd Jan.,—Calcutta via Penang and Singapore 16th Jan., Gen.—J., M. & Co.

Mathilde, Ger. s.s., 831, A. P. Ulderup, 23rd Jan.,—Haiphong and Hoihow 21st Jan., Rice and Pigs.—J. & Co.

Montagle, Br. s.s., 6,163, S. Robinson, R.N.R., 10th Jan.,—Vancouver 13th Dec., and Shanghai 7th Jan., Mails and Gen.—C. P. R. Co.

Nord, Nor. s.s., 715, Haroldsen, 14th Jan.—Tourane, 12th Jan., Rice and Salt.—Aagaard, Thoresen & Co.

Onsang, Br. s.s., 1,787, R. Cox, 17th Jan.,—Java 5th Jan., Sugar.—J., M. & Co.

Ovid, Br. s.s., 2,686, Cubitt, 18th Jan.,—Moji 12th Jan., Coal.—B. & Co.

Persia, Br. s.s., 2,744, A. Dixon, 11th Jan.,—San Francisco 7th Dec., and Portland, Or. 15th, Flour.—O. & O. S. S. Co.

Pitsanulok, Ger. s.s., 1,267, D. Reimers, 22nd Jan.,—Bangkok 11th Jan., and Swatow 21st, Gen.—B. & S.

Powhatan, Br. s.s., 1,640, W. T. Turner, 14th Jan.,—Moji 8th Jan., Coal.—D. & Co., Ltd.

Prinz Waldemar, Ger. s.s., 1,737, W. van Sanden, 15th Jan.,—Manila 12th Jan., Gen.—M. & Co.

Samsen, Ger. s.s., 998, F. Schmitz, 17th Jan.,—Bangkok via Swatow 6th Jan., Gen.—B. & S.

Shinshu Maru, Jap. s.s., 2,409, K. Nagata, 17th Jan.,—Moji 11th Jan., Coal.—Fukusei & Co.

Siberia, Am. s.s., 5,655, A. Zeeder, 21st Jan.,—San Francisco 24th Dec., and Shanghai 18th Jan., Mails and Gen.—P. M. S. S. Co.

Singan, Br. s.s., 1,04[illegible], F. Jamieson, 20th Jan.,—Haiphong and Hoihow 19th Jan., Rice and Live Stock.—B. & S.

Standard, Nor. s.s., 804, H. N. Bull, 13th Jan.,—Cebu (Philippine Islands) 8th Jan., Ballast.—Wallem & Co.

Sulsang, Br. s.s., 1,785, W. D. Welsh, 19th Jan.,—Hongay 17th Jan., Coal.—J., M. & Co.

Yetorofu Maru, Jap. s.s., 4,161, K. Sato, 22nd Jan.,—Moji 17th Jan., Gen.—N. Y. K.

Yingchow, Br. s.s., 1,234, W. Frazier, 23rd Jan.,—Canton 23rd Jan., Gen.—B. & S.

Zafiro, Br. s.s., 1,629, R. Rodger, 20th Jan.,—Manila 18th Jan., Hemp.—B., T. & Co.

Steamers Expected.

Vessels	From	Agents	Due
Rhesaina	Singapore	H. A. L.	Jan. 25
Shinano Maru	Shanghai	N. Y. K.	Jan. 26
Ambria	Manila	H. A. L.	Jan. 26
Chiogiu	Kobe	B. & S.	Jan. 27
Slavonia	Singapore	H. A. L.	Jan. 27
Zieten	Japan	M. & Co.	Jan. 28
Socotra	Singapore	P. & O. Co.	Jan. 28
Loongsang	Manila	J., M. & Co.	Jan. 28
China	Japan	P. M. Co.	Jan. 29
Moyori Maru	Singapore	N. Y. K.	Jan. 29
Eastern	P. Darwin	[illegible], L. & Co.	Jan. 31
Kleist	Colombo	M. & Co.	Feb. 1
Changsha	Sydney	B. & S.	Feb. 4
P. Sigismund	Sydney	M. & Co.	Feb. 6
Tsinan	Sydney	B. & S.	Feb. 14

DOCK RETURNS.

HONGKONG AND WHAMPOA DOCKS.

Neil Mcleod ..... at Kowloon Dock
Huichow ..... " " "
Haitan ..... " " "
Samsen ..... " " "
Hercules ..... " " "
Persia ..... " " "
Siberia ..... " " "
Amigo ..... " " "
Protector ..... " " "
Ulv ..... " " "
Germania ..... " " "
Prinz Waldemar ..... " " "
Chihli ..... " Cosmopolitan "
Singan ..... " " "

The Ships Passed Canal.

17th December—*Dardanus*, *Verona*. 20th December—*Acara*, *Tonkin*, *Jason*, *Ningchow*. 21th December—*Benglos*, *Ping Suey*, *Prinz Heinrich*, *Telemachus*, *Nera*, *Rintang*, *Malte*, *Indien*. 27th December—*Slavonia*, *Princess Alice*, *Rhesaina*, *Kamakura Maru*, *Sanuki Maru*. 31st December—*Alcinous*, *Sithonia*, *Bombay Maru*, *Socotra*, *Teankai*, *Bluecross*, *Hohenfels*, *Tamaru Maru*. 3rd January—*Achilles*, *Nore*, *Polynesian*, *Glenearn*, *Nubia*, *Drumgeith*, *Vorwaerts*, 7th January—*Agamemnon*, *Glenlochy*, *Menelaus*, *Indrasamha*, *Senegambia*, *Yunnan*, *Brasilia*, *Glamorganshire*. 10th January—*Ernest Simons*, *Atholl*, *Awa Maru*, *Hitachi Maru*, *P. R. Luitpold*. 14th January—*Benlawers*, *Longsor*, *Calkay*, *Syria*, *Silesia*, (Ger.) 17th January—*Laeries Sachsen*, *Tourane*, *Kleist*, *Meinam*. 21st January—*Manila*, *Monmouthshire*, *Satsuma*, *Antilochus*, *Patroclus*.

Arrivals at Home—17th December—*Pak Ling*, *Idomeneus*. 20th December—*Inaba Maru*. 24th December—*Borneo*, *Benaldie*, *Benmohr*, *Indrawadi*, *Tonkin*, *Orwell*. 31st December—*Jason*. 3rd January—*Persia*, *Sueyia*, *Prinz Ludwig*. 7th January—*Princess Alice*. 10th January—*Polynesien*, *Persia*. 14th January—*Indien*, *Alcinous*, *Kumakura Maru*. 17th January—*Sithonia*. 18th January—*Nore*. 21st January—*Achilles*, *Hitachi Maru*, *China*, (Aus.) *Glenearn*, *Tourane*, *Candia*.

CHINA COAST METEOROLOGICAL REGISTER.

January 23rd, 1908, a.m.

		Bar.	Th.	Hu.	Wind		Wr.
Vladivostock	7 a.m.	—	—	—	—	—	—
Nemuro	6 a.m.	30.12	—	—	W	4	—
Hakodate	"	30 21	—	—	N	2	—
Tokio	"	30.30	—	—	NW	4	—
Kochi	"	30 35	—	—	W	2	—
Nagasaki	"	30 43	—	—	NE	2	—
Kagoshima	"	30.39	—	—	N	4	—
Oshima	"	30.32	—	—	S	2	—
Naha	"	30.28	—	—	—	0	—
Ishigakijima	"	30 25	—	—	NE	6	—
Bonin Is.	"	30.20	—	—	N	2	—
Chefoo	6 a.m.	30 56	25	100	SE	1	c
Weihaiwei	9 a.m.	30 54	17	—	WNW	1	ovr
Hankow	6 a.m.	30.04	35	90	NW	1	c
Kiukiang	"	30 59	36	93	NE	1	o
Shanghai	7 a.m.	30.53	42	66	NE	1	o
Gutzlaff	"	30.50	43	75	NE	3	ov
Sharp Peak	"	30.38	54	87	ENE	3	c
Amoy	6 a.m.	30.25	58	81	NE	1	o
Swatow	"	30.32	54	94	NE	2	c
Taihoku	6 a.m.	30.27	—	—	E	6	—
Taichu	"	30.21	—	—	W	2	—
Tainan	"	30 19	—	—	N	4	—
Koshun	"	30.17	—	—	NE	6	—
Pescadores	"	30.21	—	—	N	8	—
Canton	7 a.m.	30.33	55	81	N	1	o
Hongkong	10 a.m.	30.29	61	77	E	1	od
Victoria Peak	"	—	—	—	ENE	3	—
Gap Rock	"	30.25	—	—	NE	4	—
Macao	"	30.31	6	—	N	2	o
Hoihow	9 a.m.	—	—	—	—	—	—
Pakhoi	"	—	—	—	—	—	—
Phullen	10 a.m.	30.24	63	—	ENE	3	o
Tourane	"	30.14	70	—	NW	1	or
C. St. James	"	29.99	75	—	SE	1	o
Aparri	6 a.m.	30.11	70	—	NE	2	d
Manila	10 a.m.	30 04	81	70	ENE	0	c
Legaspi	6 a.m.	30 01	75	—	NE	1	b
Bacolod	9 a.m.	—	—	—	—	—	—
Iloilo	"	—	—	—	—	—	—
Cebu	"	—	—	—	—	—	—
Labuan	"	29.91	81	—	—	—	—

January 24th, 1908, a.m.

Vladivostock	7 a.m.	—	—	—	—	—	—
Nemuro	6 a.m.	—	—	—	—	—	—
Hakodate	"	30.09	—	—	NW	6	—
Tokio	"	30.18	—	—	NW	2	—
Kochi	"	30.39	—	—	SW	2	—
Nagasaki	"	30.43	—	—	NE	2	—
Kagoshima	"	30.39	—	—	NE	6	—
Oshima	"	30.32	—	—	—	0	—
Naha	"	30.28	—	—	E	6	—
Ishigakijima	"	30.21	—	—	E	6	—
Bonin Is.	"	30.24	—	—	NW	2	—
Chefoo	6 a.m.	—	—	—	—	—	—
Weihaiwei	9 a.m.	30.40	—	—	SE	—	o
Hankow	6 a.m.	—	—	—	—	—	—
Kinkiang	"	—	—	—	—	—	—
Shanghai	7 a.m.	30.30	49	78	S	2	o
Gutzlaff	"	30.29	49	85	SSE	3	ov
Sharp Peak	"	30.26	56	94	N	3	c
Amoy	6 a.m.	30.20	61	88	ESE	1	o
Swatow	"	—	—	—	—	—	—
Taihoku	6 a.m.	30.16	—	—	—	o	—
Taichu	"	30.17	—	—	—	o	—
Tainan	"	30.15	—	—	E	4	—
Koshun	"	30.12	—	—	N	8	—
Pescadores	"	30.22	—	—	E	6	—
Canton	7 a.m.	—	—	—	—	—	—
Hongkong	10 a.m.	30.24	61	96	—	o	od
Victoria Peak	"	—	—	—	ENE	5	—
Gap Rock	"	30.19	—	—	ENE	4	—
Macao	"	30.24	61	—	N	2	od
Hoihow	9 a.m.	—	—	—	—	—	—
Pakhoi	"	—	—	—	—	—	—
Phullen	10 a.m.	30.19	63	—	NNE	1	o
Tourane	"	30.12	70	—	—	o	q
C. St. James	"	29.93	75	—	NE	3	o
Aparri	6 a.m.	—	—	—	—	—	—
Manila	10 a.m.	30.04	79	76	SE	3	d
Legaspi	6 a.m.	29 99	79	—	E	1	b
Bacolod	9 a.m.	—	—	—	—	—	—
Iloilo	"	—	—	—	—	—	—
Cebu	"	—	—	—	—	—	—
Labuan	"	29.90	79	—	—	—	—

	Jan. 23 at 10 a.m.	Jan. 23 at 4 p.m.
Barometer	30.39	30.17
Temperature	61	62
Humidity	77	77
Rainfall	—	—

Post Office.

A Post Office has now been established at Taipo, New Territories. Rate of Postage, for Letters, 2 cents per 1 oz. A mail will be made up daily at 4 p.m.

A Mail will close for:—

Manila—Per *Zafiro*, 25th Jan., 10 A.M.
Timor, Port Darwin, Thursday Island, Cooktown, Cairns, Townsville, Brisbane, Sydney, Hobart, Launceston, New Zealand, Melbourne, Adelaide, Perth and Fremantle—Per *Empire*, 27th Jan., 10 A.M.
Europe, &c., India *via* Tuticorin—Per *Arcadia*, 25th Jan., 11 A.M.
Shanghai—Per *Choysang*, 25th Jan., 11 A.M.
Macao—Per *Sui Tai*, 25th Jan., 1.15 P.M.
Yokohama, Kobe and Moji—Per *Tyfilwong*, 27th Jan., 2 P.M.
Singapore and Sourabaya—Per *Onsang*, 25th Jan., 2 P.M.
Shanghai—Per *Yingchow*, 25th Jan., 3 P.M.
Tsingtau and Chefoo—Per *Choongshing*, 27th Jan., 3 P.M.
Kuchinotzu, Kobe, Yokohama, Victoria, B.C., Tacoma, Vancouver and Seattle, Wash.—Per *Ningchow*, 25th Jan., 5 P.M.
Hoihow and Haiphong—Per *Hupeh*, 25th Jan., 6 P.M.
Swatow, Amoy and Tamsui—Per *Joshin Maru*, 26th Jan., 8 A.M.
Swatow, Amoy and Foochow—Per *Haitan*, 26th Jan., 9 A.M.
Kobe and Yokohama—Per *Sanuki Maru*, 26th Jan., 9 A.M.
Swatow—Per *Haimun*, 27th Jan., 1 P.M.
Singapore, Penang and Calcutta—Per *Fooksang*, 28th Jan., 2 P.M.
Manila—Per *Tean*, 28th Jan., 3 P.M.
Shanghai, Nagasaki, Kobe, Yokohama, Victoria and Vancouver, B.C.—Per *Montagle*, 29th Jan., 10 A.M.
Moji, Kobe, Yokohama and Portland, Or.—Per *Numantia*, 29th Jan., 10 A.M.
Europe, &c., India *via* Tuticorin—Per *Zieten*, 29th Jan., 11 A.M.
Manila, Simpsonhafen, Fr. Wilhelmshafen, Herbershohe, Matupi, Brisbane, Sydney, Hobart, Launceston, New Zealand, Melbourne, Adelaide, Perth and Fremantle—Per *Prinz Waldemar*, 30th Jan., 4 P.M.
Singapore, Penang and Calcutta—Per *Kumsang*, 31st Jan., 2 P.M.
Manila—Per *Loongsang*, 31st Jan., 3 P.M.

VISITORS AT THE HOTELS.

CRAIGIBURN.

Adams, M. and Mrs. F. R. J.
Bonnar, Mr. and Mrs. J. W. C.
Caldwell, G. E.
Clothier, Mr. and Mrs. H. W.
Denison, Mr. and Mrs.
Denison, Misses (2)
Marchant, Capt. & Mrs.
Mrs. Hollingsworth, Mr. &
Jones, Dr. and Mrs. Evan
Smith, Mrs. H. S.
Smith, Mr. and Mrs. Grant
Smith, Percy

HONGKONG.

Adams, R. M.
Allalice, A.
Alexander, Miss
Ambrose, Mr. and Mrs. F. W.
Battiscombe, H. G.
Beattie, R. B.
Berbli-gar, A.
Bernhard, J.
Birchenough, W. H.
Birney, Miss
Birney, Mr. & Mrs. S.
Black, Dr. G. D. R.
Blunn, A. B.
Bornand, E.
Boyd, J.
Brayfield, T.
Britton, L. H.
Bulzard, E.
Brooke, Mr. and Mrs. C. B.
Browe, F. G.
Bulmer, J. H.
Burgess, R. C.
Burrell, W. A.
Carpenter, E. W.
Carter, A.
Chaki, Dr. T.
Clark, E.
Colvin, H. E.
Crake, W. A.
Crook, A. H.
Cruickshank, J.
Curry, George
Darton, T. H.
Davies, A. E.
Donnison, F. C.
Einstmann, W.
Elsworth, C. W. T.
Ffrench, Lord and Mrs. and maid
Fisher, H. G.
Fluno, Dr. and Mrs. F. J., 2 daughters and son
Franklin, C. B.
Frost, B. L.
Fuller, Denman
Fuller, S. J.
Garvin, F. S.
Gibb, Miss C. D.
Gibbs, Mrs. W. C.
Gibbe, Miss H. E.
Gibson, Dr. A.
Ginnell, J.
Gordon, T.
Gorrell, O.
Gray, T. C.
Hall, Capt. T.
Harding, R.
Harrison, J. L.
Herrick, P. P.
Hewett, Hon. Mr. and Mrs. E. A.
Howard, E.
Howe, A.
Huffmann, Mrs. C. H.
Huffmann, Misses C, M. and G,
Innes, Capt. R.
Jones, Mr. and Mrs. P. N. H.
Joseph, Mr. and Mrs. E. S.
Joseph, M. R.
Lauff, N. A.
Leege, C.
Leighton, W.
Little, A. C.
Logan, Mr. and Mrs. W.
Madar S.
Madrolle, A.
Malley, J.
Mangelsdorff, F. Van
Marriott, Dr. O.
Matheson, Mrs. R. T. and child
McIntosh, G. C.
McKean, Dr. G. W.
Metzenthin, Capt. and Mrs. H.
Millar, R. A.
Millard, H.
Morrison, Dr. G. E.
Morrison, Mrs. G. F.
Mulligan, H. S.
Nesbitt, P.
Nugent, R.N.
Osborne G.
Perkins, Douglas
Perkins, Mr. and Mrs. T. L.
Plowright, Miss
Polglase, A. W.
Potts, Mr. and Mrs. W. H.
Potts, Miss
Powell, W. A.
Preshaw, C. M.
Pringlas, Jr., W.
Pugh, A. J.
Pugh, E. A.
Ralphs, E.
Ray, E. H.
Reynolds, C. R.
Ritchie, F.
Robinson, Sir & Lady Clifton
Samuel, E. G.
Sellner, G. C.
Serinsen, A.
Sharp, P. F.
Shields, C. E.
Solomon, L. P.
Spittles, J.
Stebbing, W. S.
Stevens, Rev. A.
Symmons, W. G.
Taylor, C. B.
Taylor, Mrs. H.
Thompson, H.
Tricker, C. H.
Tullidge, G. W.
Thomson, C. G.
Vida, F. R.
Weil, L.
Wilkinson, T. L.
Ingerson, Mr. and Mrs. C. A.
Wood, G. G.
Woods, J. D.

CONNAUGHT.

Atkinson, W. M.
Ayre, Mr. and Mrs. Wm. H. and child
Barrett, Mrs. M. A.
Berry, F. J., wife and child
Bilyeu, Wm. R.
Bright, W. H.
Caffarens, J.
Chevalet, Madame H.
Chevalet, L. H.
Corwell, Mrs. C. B.
Dietrich, Mr. and Mrs. J.
Gitt, Wm.
Graw, E. W.
Heady, Harold E.
Herkt, C.
Holmes, F. E.
Hough, Dr. Spencer
Howak, D. C.
Hutchinson, Wm. M.
Kiene, F.
Lawson, Capt. J. J.
McKenzie, J. H.
Morgao, Mr.
Silva-Netto, Mr & Mrs. A. F. B.
Wagatha, Made Maiselle F. L.
Wagner, John A.

PEAK.

Austin, F.
Clark, Mr. and Mrs. D. M.
Cochrane, Mr. & Mrs. J.
Codey, Mr.
Colleyshaw, Mr.
Darling, Col.
Ellis, A.
Ellis, Mrs.
Fischer, R.
Fisher, Major and Mrs.
Fuchs, Mr.
Galbraithe, Mr
Gomperz, H. H.
Greenhill, L. S.
Grieg, Mr.
Hall, J.
Hancock, Mr.
Harding, Mr. and Mrs.
Haszland, F. A.
Hell, P.
Hill, E. E.
Hockaday, W. T.
Hocking Mr. and Mrs. A.
Hoffman, Mr. and Miss
Hutchison, Capt. and Mrs.
Jeffries, H. U.
Jones, S.S., Mr.
Kellis, Mr.
Kent, R.A., Col.
Lambert, Lt.-Col. and Mrs.
Lambert, Miss
Lauder, Major
Logan, Major and Mrs.
Macdonald, Major
Malden, Geo.
Martin, R.
Mast, E.
McCoffery, Mr. & Mrs.
Mitchell, R.
Monk, S. D.
Pereira, Consul & Mrs.
Petrie, Mr. and Mrs.
Playne, Mr. and Mrs. S.
Reid, Lieut.-Col.
Rissland, H.
Ross, Major R. J.
Sargent, Mr.
Sayer, G. W.
Shordridge, Mr. & Mrs. A. B.
Sinclair, A.
Smith, A. Findlay
Stopani, Mr.
Synnot, Capt. A. Hart
Tweedie, Lt. and Mrs.
Wakefield, Mrs.
Watkins, Mr. and Mrs.
Whittam, Mrs. & Miss
Wilder, A. P.
Williamson, Mrs.
Williams, Staff-Surg. and Mrs.
Worbrook, Mr.

KOWLOON.

Abacco, Baron and Baroness C. B.
Dabriel, Mr. and Mrs. James
Gose, Capt. and Mrs. E. B.
Klebs, Dr. and Mrs.
Lewis, Major A. R.
Lewis, E. Cornewall
Macdonald, Lieut. and Mrs. and 3 children
Macdonald, David
Morris, J.
Smith, Capt. C. H.
Stone, P. E. F.
Swan, F. F.
Talbot, S.
Tuke, R.M.S., Capt. and Mrs. A.
Wuchert, Lieut. and Mrs. H. W.

HIS BRITANNIC MAJESTY'S SHIPS ON THE CHINA STATION.

Name.	Class.	Tons.	Guns.	I.H.P.	Captain.	Last reported at
Sterling	despatch-vessel	700	4	3,000	Commander E. La T. Leatham	Hongkong
Astraea	cruiser, 2nd class	4,360	10	7,000	Captain C. L. Vaughan-Lee	Shanghai
Bedford	cruiser, 1st class	9,800	14	22,000	Captain S. E. Erskine	Hongkong
Bramble	river gunboat	710	6	900	Lieut.-Commander E. G. W. Davidson	Yangtse
Britomart	river gunboat	710	6	900	Lieut.-Commander W. L. Bamber	Yangtse
Cadmus	sloop	1,070	6	1,400	Commander B. L. Majendie	Canton
Cherub	water tank and lig	390	—	300		Hongkong
Clio	sloop	1,070	6	1,400	Commander C. D. S. Raikes	Hongkong
Crescent	cruiser, 2nd class	3,490	—	—	Captain Andersen	Singapore
Fame	torpedo boat destroyer	306	6	5,700	Lieut.-Commander A. L. Gresson	Hongkong
Flora	cruiser, 2nd class	4,360	10	7,000	Captain Roland Nugent	Hongkong
Handy	torpedo boat destroyer	275	6	4,000	Lieut.-Commander W. H. Darwall	Hongkong
Hart	torpedo boat destroyer	275	6	4,000	Lieut.-Commander Dickens	Hongkong
Hawke	cruiser, 2nd class	5,600	—	—	Captain Gillet	Singapore
Janus	torpedo boat destroyer	280	6	3,900	Lieut.-Commander C. A. Fremantle	Hongkong
Kent	cruiser, 1st class	9,800	14	22,000	Captain G. C. A. Marescaux	Hongkong
King Alfred*	cruiser, 1st class	14,100	18	30,000	Captain C. F. Thursby	Hongkong
Kinsha	river gunboat	616	4	1,200	Lieut.-Commander S. H. Tennyson	Yangtse
Merlin	surveying ship	1,070	6	1,400	Commander F. H. Walter	Kudat
Monmouth	cruiser, 1st class	9,800	14	22,000	Captain J. A. Tuke	Singapore
Moorhen	river gunboat	180	2	800	Lieut.-Commander A. Mellin	Hongkong
Nightingale	river gunboat	85	2	240	Lieut.-Commander R. S. Roy	Yangtse
Otter	torpedo boat destroyer	350	6	6,300	Lieut.-Commander J. Kiddle	Hongkong
Robin	river gunboat	85	2	240	Lieut.-Commander C. C. Walcott	West River
Sandpiper	river gunboat	85	2	240	Lieut.-Commander H. R. Tickell	Hongkong
Snipe	river gunboat	85	2	240	Lieut.-Commander Alan Dixon	Yangtse
Taku	torpedo boat destroyer	250	6	6,500	Boln. W. Strath	Hongkong
Tamar	receiving ship	4,650	6	—	Commodore R. H. S. Stokes	Hongkong
Teal	river gunboat	180	2	800	Lieut.-Commander H. R. Godfrey	Yangtse
Thistle	river gunboat	710	6	900	Lieut.-Commander R. M. R. West	Yangtse
Virago	torpedo boat destroyer	355	6	6,300	Lieut.-Commander Stevenson	Hongkong
Waterwitch	surveying ship	620	4	450	Commander R. W. Glennie	Hongkong
Whiting	torpedo boat destroyer	360	6	5,900	Lieut.-Commander H. B. Cox	Hongkong
Widgeon	river gunboat	195	2	800	Lieut.-Commander Jno. F. Knox	Yangtse
Woodcock	river gunboat	150	2	550	Lieut.-Comde. G. R. Livingstone	Yangtse
Woodlark	river gunboat	150	2	550		

* Flying Flag of Admiral Sir Arthur W. Moore, Commander-in-Chief.

FRENCH MEN-OF-WAR ON THE CHINA STATION.

Name.	Flag and Description.	Tons.	Guns.	H. P.	Commanding Officers.	Last reported at
Achéron	armoured gunboat	1,721	8	1,600	Lieut. Fauré	Saigon
Adour	receiving-ship	—	—	—	Lieut. Du Merle	Haiphong
Alger	2nd class cruiser	4,320	20	8,000	Commander Fournier	Shanghai
Alouette	torpedo-depot	506	—	400	Commander Kérihuel	Saigon
Argus	river gunboat	180	6	1,150	Lieut. Audouard	Si-kiang (Canton)
Bruix	armoured cruiser	4,811	16	8,700	Captain Rochas	Saigon
Décidée	gunboat	647	12	900	Lieut. Le Blanc	Saigon
D'Entrecasteaux †	1st class cruiser	8,123	26	14,500	Capt. Tracou	Saigon
Esturgeon	sub-marine	—	—	—	Lieut. Combet	Saigon
Fronde	destroyer	303	7	7,000	Lieut. Thierry	Saigon
Henri Rivière	river gunboat	141	5	160	Lieut. Mehs	Haiphong
Lynx	sub-marine	—	—	—	Lieut. Guesnel	Saigon
Manche	surveying-ship	1,522	10	800	Commander Ragot de la Touche	Saigon
Monsquet	destroyer	303	7	7,000	Commander De la Roche Karandraon	Saigon
Olry	river gunboat	165	6	500	Lieut. Doe de Maindreville	Y'tse-kiang (T'king
Peiho	river gunboat	130	3	280	Lieut. Marchand	Tongku
Perle	sub-marine	—	—	—	Lieut. Hubert	Saigon
Pistolet	destroyer	303	7	7,000	Commander Mortenol	Hongay
Protée	sub-marine	—	—	—	Lieut. Morris	Saigon
Redoutable*	battleship, reserve	9,330	30	6,500	Capt. Passerat de Silans	Saigon
Styx	armoured gunboat	1,721	8	1,600	Lieut. Seriot	Saigon
Takiang	steam-launch	—	—	—	(Amene Olry)	Upper Y'tse T'king
Vauban	torpedo-depot	—	—	—	Commander Mortenol	Hongay
Vétéran	torpedo-depot	—	—	—	Lieut. Bibal	Cap Saint-Jacques
Vigilante	river gunboat	180	6	1,150	Lieut. Devarenne	Canton

† Flagship of Rear-Admiral Perrin, Commander-in-Chief.

Vipère	Gunboats.	475	—	—	Reserve.	Saigon
Lion		500	—	—		
Combat		475	—	—		
Baïonnette		170	—	—		
Bouclier		140	—	—		
Coronade		184	—	—		
Cimeterre		140	—	—		Haiphong
Estoc		141	—	—		
Jacquin		200	—	—		

(*) Flagship of Rear-Admiral de Marolles.
Commanding the naval defence of Indo-China.

Intimation.

THE HONGKONG TELEGRAPH.

1, ICE HOUSE ROAD,

HONGKONG.

CABLE ADDRESS:—*Telegraph*, Hongkong.

THE leading English Newspaper in China

Also widely circulated in Japan, Cochin China, Ceylon, India and the Far East generally.

A daily newspaper with weekly edition published for despatch by the homeward mail

The daily is recommended as more generally suitable, except for subscribers in Europe or America.

A special feature is made of full and accurate reports of local occurrences, and of matters of general interest.

ADVERTISING DEPARTMENT.

The *Hongkong Telegraph* is the best medium for advertising in China. It circulates largely among all classes of the community, is the largest daily newspaper and has a wider circulation than any journal in the Far East.

Special attention given to effectively displaying advertisements.

The type used as a standard for setting advertisements is similar to this, unless we are instructed to display the advertisement, when any effective style of type will be adopted. This standard runs exactly eight lines to the inch, and about eight words to the line.

DOMESTIC OCCURRENCES.

Notices of Births, Deaths, and Marriages $1 each insertion in the Daily and Weekly.

CONTRACT ADVERTISEMENTS.

Special Rates for standing advertisements can be ascertained from the Manager.

Advertisements for the Daily should reach the *Hongkong Telegraph* Office not later than noon of the day they are intended to appear.

Unless otherwise specified all advertisements will be repeated and charged for until countermanded.

JOBBING DEPARTMENT.

Job Printing of all descriptions undertaken,

PROGRAMMES,

PAMPHLETS,

CARDS,

CIRCULARS,

EXPRESSES.

All job printing is done under European supervision, well turned out, free from errors, and remarkably cheap at

THE HONGKONG TELEGRAPH OFFICE.

Estimates given for all classes of work on application to

THE MANAGER,
HONGKONG TELEGRAPH CO., LD.
1, Ice House Road,
Hongkong.

SHARE QUOTATIONS.

Supplied by Messrs. E. S. KADOORIE & Co. Corrected to noon; later alterations given under "Commercial Intelligence," page 5.

STOCKS.	NO. OF SHARES.	VALUE.	PAID UP.	POSITION AS PER LAST REPORT: RESERVE.	POSITION AS PER LAST REPORT: AT WORKING ACCOUNT.	LAST DIVIDEND.	APPROXIMATE RETURN AT PRESENT QUOTATION. REMARKS LAST YEAR'S DIV.	CLOSING QUOTATIONS.
BANKS.								
Hongkong & Shanghai Banking Corporation	[illegible],000	$125	$125	£1,000,000 / $13,750,000	$1,797,167	£1.15/- for 1-year ending 30.6.07 @ ex 2/2 3/16=$16.04	5½ %	$715 sales / $711 sales
Do. (new)	40,000	$125	$125	$250,000				new issue London £79
National Bank of China, Limited	[illegible]5	£7	£6	£12,735 / $302,000	$11,203	$2 (London 3/6) for 1903	...	$51
MARINE INSURANCES								
Canton Insurance Office, Limited	,000	$250	$50	$1,560,000 / $219,058 / $411,959	none	$20 for 1906	8½	$24½
North China Insurance Company, Limited	,000	£15	£5	£125,000 / Tls. 160,000 / Tls. 48,942	Tls. 204,214	Final of 7/6 per share making in all 15/- for 1906=Tls. 2.65	6 %	Tls. 87½ sellers
Union Insurance Society of Canton, Limited	2,400	$250	$100	$3,000,000 / £70,000 / $456,407 / £125,137. 15/- / $817,628	1,460,410	Final of $12 making $42 for 1905 and interim of 13½ for 1906	5 %	$827½ sales
Yangtsze Insurance Association, Limited	8,000	$100	$60	$80,000 / $159,143	394,520	$11 for year ending 31.12.05	...	$150
Do. do. (new)	4,000	$100	$60	$1,988				$137½
FIRE INSURANCES.								
China Fire Insurance Company, Limited	10,000	$100	$20	$1,000,000 / $320,449 / $7,616	1,162,980	$8 and bonus $2 for 1905	8½ %	$95
Hongkong Fire Insurance Company, Limited	8,000	$250	$50	$1,256,483	$135,236	$40 for 1905	12 %	$335
SHIPPING.								
China and Manila Steamship Company, Limited	10,000	$25	$26	$7,000	$365	$1, for 1906	6½ %	$15
Douglas Steamship Company, Limited	10,000	$50	$50	$264,638 / $96,988	Nil.	$4 for year ending 30.6.1907	10 %	$40
Hongkong, Canton & Macao Steamboat Co., Ld.	0,000	$15	$15	$250,000 / $550,000 / 286,989	$27,101	$1 for 1st half-year ending 30.6.07	6½ %	$29
Indo-China Steam Navigation Co., Ld. (Preferred)	10,000	£5	£5	£60,000	£3,694	5/- for 1906 @ ex 2/2½=$2.24 per share	5½ %	$39
Do. do. (Deferred)	6,000			£270,000				$27
Shanghai Tug and Lighter Company, Limited	200,000	Tls. 50	Tls. 50	Tls. 54,372	Tls. 13,327	Interim of Tls. 1½ for account 1907	12 %	Tls. 46 sellers
Do. (Preference)	100,000			£400,000			11 %	Tls. 50 sellers
"Shell" Transport and Trading Company, Limited	1,000,000	£1	£1	£1,871	172,370	Interim of 1/- (Coupon No. 8) for a/c 1907	4½ %	44/-
"Star" Ferry Company, Limited	50,000	$10	10	$65,000 / $32,957	$137	$1.00 / $0.50 for year ending 30.4.1907	4½ % / 4½ %	$24 buyers / $12 buyers
	10,000	$10	$5	Tls. 98,000 / Tls. 419,479				
Taku Tug and Lighter Company, Limited	10,000	Tls. 50	Tls. 50	Tls. 62,000 / Tls. 81,200 / Tls. 30,000	18,730	Final of Tls. 2 making Tls. 6 for 1906	12½ %	Tls. 47 sellers
REFINERIES.								
China Sugar Refining Company, Limited	,000	100	100	$450,000	9,218	48 for year ending 31.12.06	7½ %	$109 buyers
Luzon Sugar Refining Company, Limited	7,000	$100	$100	none		for 1907		$12 buyers
Perak Sugar Cultivation Company, Limited	7,000	Tls. 50	Tls. 50	Tls. 100,000	Tls. 8,935	Tls. 4 (8 %) for year ending 31.8.06	5 %	Tls. 80
MINING.								
Chinese Engineering and Mining Company, Ld.	200,000	£1	£1	£150,000 / £84,398	£11,556	Final of 2/6 (No. 9) for 1907	7½ %	Tls. 15 buyers
Raub Australian Gold Mining Company, Limited	150,000	£1	8/10	£4,873	£11,358	No. 12 of 1/-=48 cents	...	$8½
	50,000	£1	£1					
DOCKS, WHARVES & GODOWNS.								
Fenwick (Geo.) & Co., Limited	18,000	$25	$25	$64,124	$10,335	$1.75 for year ending 31.12.06	7½ %	$15
Hongkong & Kowloon Wharf and Godown Co., Ld.	10,000	$50	50	$100,000 / $23,152	$3,047	Interim of $2 for six months ending 30th 1907	6½ %	$55 old / $53 new
Do. do. new)	20,000	$50	$50	$30,000				
Hongkong and Whampoa Dock Company, Ld.	10,000	$50	$50	$100,000 / $50,000	$491,580	74 for 1st half-year ending June 30th, 1907.	8½ %	$56 buyers
Shanghai Dock and Engineering Co., Ld.	15,700	Tls. 100	Tls. 100	Tls. 1,000,000	Tls. 10,459	Interim of Tls. 2½ for six months ending 31st October, 1907	4 %	Tls. 72 ex div.
Shanghai and Hongkew Wharf Company, Limited	36,000	Tls. 100	Tls. 100	Tls. 487,210 / Tls. 100,000 / Tls 192,100 / Tls. 75,000	Tls. 23,117	Interim of Tls. 8 for account 1907	8½ %	Tls. 215 buyers
LANDS, HOTELS & BUILDINGS.								
Anglo-French Land Investment Co., Ld.	25,000	Tls. 100	Tls. 100	Tls. 15,000	Tls. 3,388	Tls. 6 for 14½ months ending 28.2.07	6 %	Tls. 105
Astor House Hotel Company, Limited (Shanghai)	10,000	$25	$25	$30,000	$10,908	$2½ for year ending 30.6.07	11½ %	$20 sellers
Central Stores, Limited	50,133	$15	$15	$1,000	29,178	$1.80 for 1906	13 %	$14 buyers
Hongkong Hotel Company, Limited	12,000	$50	$50	$648,975 / $36,075	$10,925	74 for 1st half-year ending 30.6.07	7½ %	$104 buyers
Hongkong Land Investment and Agency Co., Ld.	50,000	$100	$100	$250,000	$56,218	Interim of $3½ for half year ending 30.6.07	7 %	$100 buyers
Humphreys Estate & Financ. Company, Limited	100,000	$10	$10	$208,386 / $50,000	$11,567	80 cents for 1906	7½ %	$10½ buyers
Kowloon Land and Building Company, Limited	,000	$50	$30	none	$1,089	$2½ for 1906	7 %	$35 sellers
Shanghai Land Investment Company, Limited	78,000	Tls. 50	Tls. 50	Tls. 869,493 / Tls. 170,000	Tls. 61,978	Interim of Tls. 3 for account 1907	7½ %	Tls. 103 buyers
West Point Building Company, Limited	12,500	$50	$50	none	$1,519	Interim of $2 for half year ending June 30th	8½ %	$50 sales
COTTON MILLS.								
Ewo Cotton Spinning and Weaving Company, Ld.	15,000	Tls. 50	Tls. 50	Tls. 150,000	Tls. 8,807	Tls 2½ for year ended 31.10.07	4½ %	Tls. 50
Hongkong Cotton Spinning, Weaving and Dyeing Company, Limited	5,000	$10	$10	Tls. 23,276 / $60,000	$14,269	50 cents for year ending 31.7.07	5 %	$10
International Cotton Manufacturing Company, Ld.	10,000	Tls. 75	Tls. 75	Tls. 150,000	Tls. 85,519	Tls. 6 for year ended 30.9.06 (8 %)	...	Tls. 55 sales
Laou-kung-mow Cotton Spinning & Weaving Co., Ld.	8,000	Tls. 100	Tls. 100	none	Tls. 31,469	Tls. 8 for 1906	...	Tls. 73 sellers
Soy Chee Cotton Spinning Company, Limited	1,000	Tls. 500	Tls. 500	Tls. 28,257	Tls. 50,663	Tls. 50 for 1906	...	Tls. 270 buyers
MISCELLANEOUS.								
Bell's Asbestos Eastern Agency, Limited	8,604	12/6	12/6	£1,299	£638	1/3 per share for 1906	9 %	57½
Campbell, Moore & Co., Limited	1,200	$10	$10	$9,000	$653	$3 for 1905	...	$10 buyers
China-Borneo Company, Limited	60,000	$12	$12	none	NIL	$1. for 1904	...	$10½
China Flour Mill Co., Limited	4,000	Tls. 50	Tls. 50	Tls. 50,000	Tls. 889	Final of Tls. 5 making Tls. 10 for 1905	...	Tls. 58 sellers
China Light and Power Company, Limited	50,000	$10	$10	none	$25,000	60 cents for year ended 28.2.06	...	16
Do. Do. special shares	*50,000	$1	$1					
China Provident Loan & Mortgage Company, Ld.	25,000	$10	$10	$115,000	$855	80 cents for 1906	8½ %	$9½
Dairy Farm Company, Limited	25,000	$7½	$6	$50,000 / $5,000	$2,974	$1.30 for year ending 31.7.07	7½ %	$17
Green Island Cement Company, Limited	400,000	$10	$10	$11,000	$10,804	Interim of 50 cents per share for a/c 1907	8½ %	$11½
Hall & Holts, Limited	21,000	$20	$20	$186,000	$15,002	$2½ for year ending 28.2.07	12½ %	$21 buyers
Hongkong Electric Company, Limited	60,000	$10	$10	none	$2,953	11 per share for year ending 28.2.07	6½ %	$15
Hongkong Ice Company, Limited	5,000	$25	$25	$105,000	$4,361	Interim of $4 for 1-year ending June 30th '07	9½ %	$240
Hongkong Rope Manufacturing Company, Ld.	50,000	$10	$10	$65,000	$4,212	Interim of 80 cents per share for a/c 1907	8 %	$25
Maatschappij tot Mijn-, Bosch- en Landbouwexploitatie in Langkat, Limited	25,000	Gs. 100	Fl. 100	Tls. 547,500 / Tls. 27,603	Tls. 10,374	Final of Tls. 7½ and bonus of Tls. 2½ making in all Tls. 32½ for 1907	8½ %	Tls. 390 sales
Peak Tramways Company, Limited	25,000	$10	$10		$2,655	$1 per sh. or period fr m 19th Oct. to 30th Apr. '07	8 %	$13
Philippine Company, Limited	07,500	$10	$10	none				$2
Shanghai Gas Company, Limited	24,000	Tls. 50	Tls. 50	Tls. 100,000	Or. P. 34,324	None	...	56 buyers
Shanghai Horse Bazaar Co., Ld.	5,400	Tls. 50	Tls. 50	Tls. 67,123	Tls. 7,990	Interim of Tls. 3½ for account 1907	7½ %	Tls. 108 buyers
Shanghai Pulp and Paper Company, Limited	4,500	Tls. 100	Tls. 100	Tls. 45,090	Tls. 9,751	Tls. 7½ for 1905	...	Tls. 45 buyers
Shanghai-Sumatra Tobacco Company, Limited	30,000	Tls. 20	Tls. 20	Tls. 8,000 / Tls. 24,820 / Tls. 50,000	Tls. 3,354	Final of Tls. 5 and Tls. 10 for 1906	...	Tls. 65 buyers
Shanghai Waterworks Company, Limited	16,350	£20	£20		Tls. 7,845	Interim of Tls. 5 for a/c 1907	8½ %	Tls. 126 sellers
South China Morning Post, Limited	6,000	$25	$25	Tls. 190,000	Tls. 85,592	Interim of 15/- for account 1907 (old) / Interim of 10/3 for account 1907 (new)	...	Tls. 350 buyers
Steam Laundry Company, Limited	20,000	$ 5	$ 5	none	Or. $41,934	None	...	120
Tientsin Waterworks Company, Limited	2,000	Tls. 100	Tls. 100	none	$478	40 cents for year ending 31.5.07	6½ %	16 sellers
Union Waterboat Company, Limited	50,000	$10	$10	Tls. 15,205 / Tls. 4,000	Tls. 201	Tls. 8½ for year ending 30.4.07	...	Tls. 97
United Asbestos Oriental Agency, Limited	10,000	$10	$4	none	$349	First year	...	$11
Watson, (A. S.) & Co., Limited	90,000	$10	$10	$35,000	$1,360	80 cents on 9,000 ord. shares and $1.80 on 100 Founders shares for y. end. 31.5.07	8 %	$10
William Powell, Limited	15,000	$10	$10	$300,000 / $25,000	$5,482	Interim of 30 cents for account 1907	6½ %	$10½ buyers
				none	$41	Final of 30 cts. making 80 cts. for the year ended 30th June, 1900	...	$5½ buyers

* These shares are entitled to half of the profits.

Printed and Published by JOSE PAREZ REMEDIOS for the Hongkong Telegraph Company, Limited, at the Printing Office of the Company, No. 7, 9th, Wyndham Street, in the City of Victoria, Hongkong.

Mails.

THE PENINSULAR AND ORIENTAL STEAM NAVIGATION COMPANY.

STEAM FOR STRAITS, CEYLON, AUSTRALIA, INDIA, ADEN, EGYPT, MEDITERRANEAN PORTS, PLYMOUTH AND LONDON.

(Through Bills of Lading issued for BATAVIA, PERSIAN GULF, CONTINENTAL, AMERICAN and SOUTH AFRICAN PORTS.)

THE Steamship

"ARCADIA,"

Captain A. L. Valentini, carrying His Majesty's Mails, will be despatched from this for BOMBAY, &c., on SATURDAY, the 25th January, at Noon, taking Passengers and Cargo for the above Ports, in connection with the Company's S.S. *Victoria*, 7,000 tons, from Colombo, Passengers' accommodation in which vessel is secured before departure from Hongkong.

Silk and Valuables, all Cargo for France, and Tea for London (under arrangement) will be transhipped at Colombo into the Mail steamer proceeding direct to Marseilles and London, other Cargo for London, &c., will be conveyed from Bombay by the R.M.S. *Oriental* due in London on 7th March, 1908.

Parcels will be received at this Office until 4 P.M. the day before sailing. The Contents and Value of all Packages are required.

For further Particulars, apply to

E. A. HEWETT, Superintendent.

Hongkong, 11th January, 1908. 17

MESSAGERIES MARITIMES

FRENCH MAIL STEAMERS.

STEAM FOR SAIGON, SINGAPORE, BATAVIA, COLOMBO, CALCUTTA, BOMBAY, DJIBOUTI, EGYPT, MARSEILLES, LONDON, HAVRE, BORDEAUX, MEDITERRANEAN AND BLACK SEA PORTS.

The S.S. "YARRA,"

Captain Sellier, will be despatched for MARSEILLES on TUESDAY, the 4th February, 1908, at 1 P.M.

This Steamer connects at Colombo with the Australian line s.s. *Australien* bound for Marseilles *via* Bombay and Aden.

Passage tickets and through Bills of Lading issued for above ports.

Cargo also booked for principal places in Europe.

Next sailings will be as follows:—

S.S. *OCEANIAN*.....18th F
S.S. *ERNEST SIMONS*.....3rd M
S.S. *TONKIN*.....17th Ma

J. MILLET, Agent.

Hongkong, 22nd January, 1908. 14

THE AMERICAN AND ORIENTAL LINE.

FOR BALTIMORE AND NEW YORK (With liberty to call at Malabar Coast).

THE Steamship

"JESERIC,"

Captain Thompson, will leave for the above Ports, on or about SATURDAY, 25th January, 1908.

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Hongkong, 21st December, 1907. 1221

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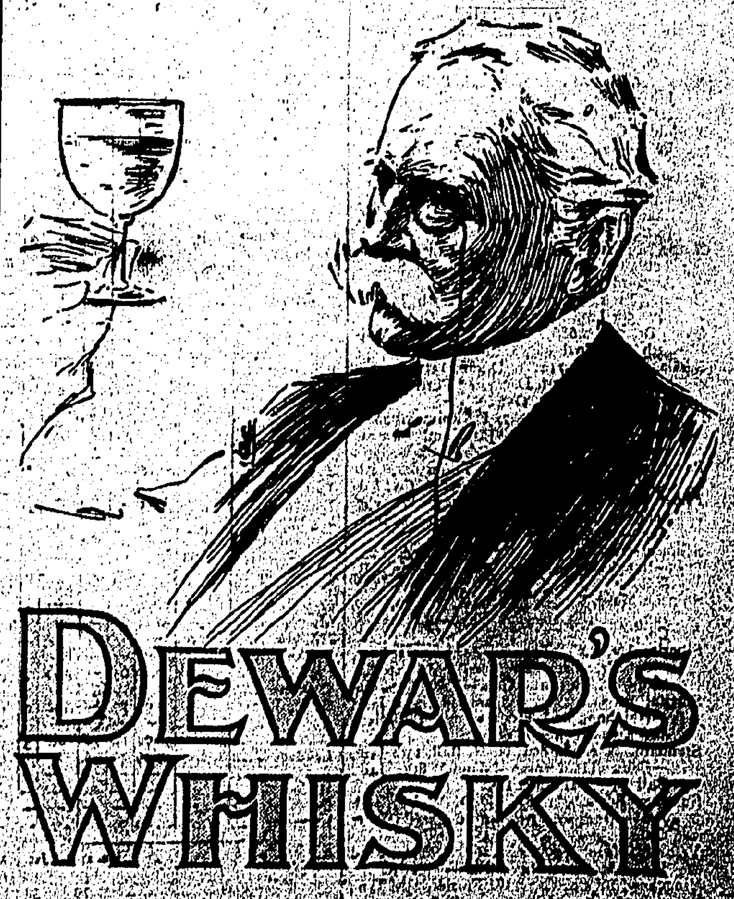

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